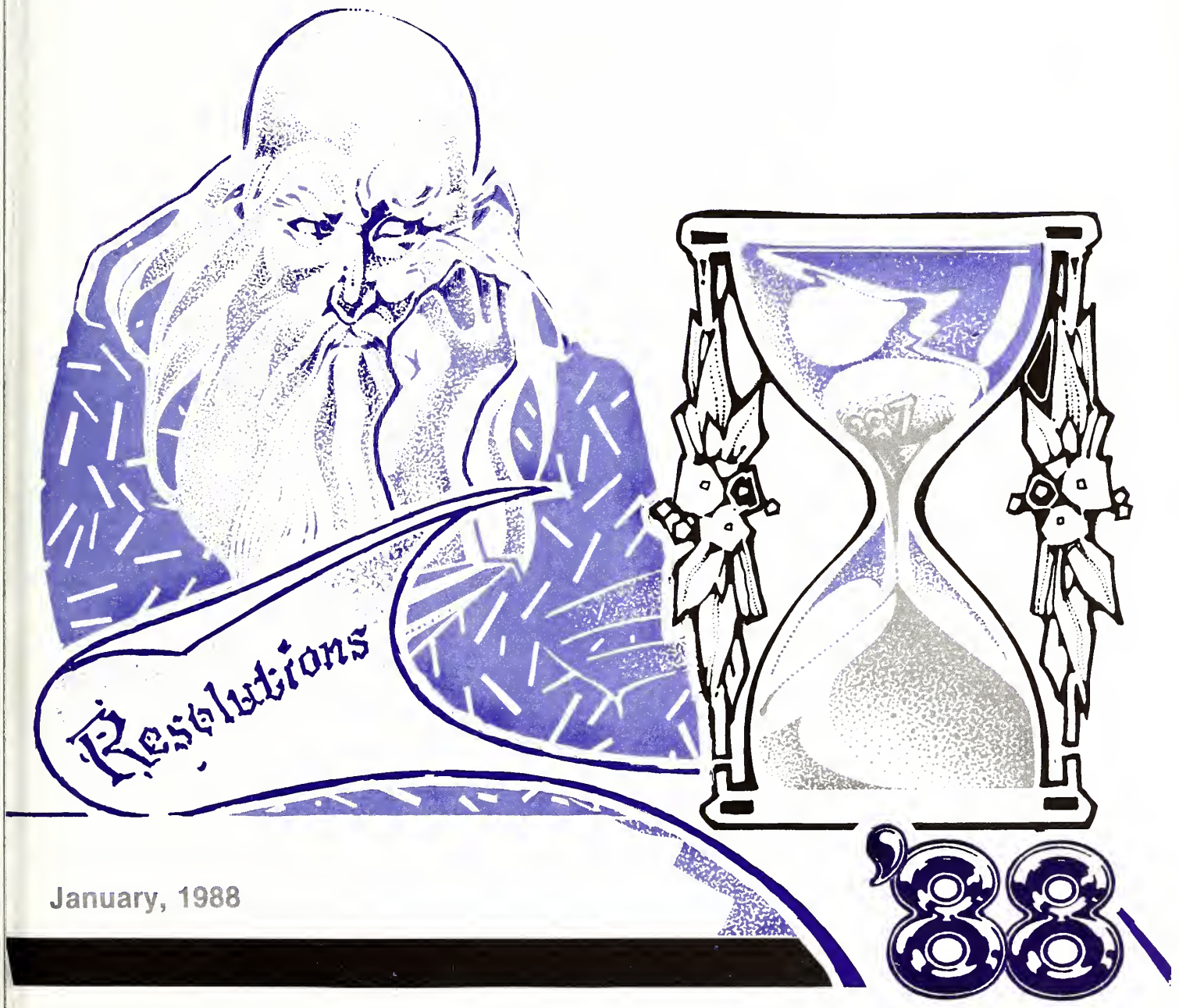

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# The Free Will Baptist ... The Servant of the Church




January, 1988

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

January, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 1

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Editorial |
| 4 | The Year in Review |
| | Discussion Starter |
| 8 | The Christian Teacher |
| 10 | For Parents and Other Human Beings |
| 13 | Youth Focus |
| 14 | Children's Corner |
| 15 | Ministry Focus |
| | Ministries Update |
| 31 | News Briefs |

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# REFLECTIONS

I have an affection for Old English Sheepdogs. The latest to join our "kennel" is Bogart, a male born on April 7. He was given to me for my birthday last year. This young pup has a bountiful supply of energy. But living beside a major highway provides less than favorable conditions for my canine friends.

One Sunday evening last October while the youth choir was practicing at the parsonage, Bogart was hit by an East Carolina college student heading back to school. I rushed him to the vet and we all hoped for the best. Bogart had sustained head injuries, nerve damage in his front left leg and his back left leg had been splintered. Bogey didn't respond for several days and the decision was going to have to be made whether or not to keep him alive. When I went in to see him the morning I thought I was going to have to make that decision, he turned his head and tried to get up when he heard me. That did it!

We brought him home several weeks later after he had had several operations. Whenever I would look out and see him dragging himself along, I wondered if I had done the right thing. I wondered if he would ever walk again. Had I tried to be noble and do something honorable? Had I really considered Bogart and the quality of life he would have?

Today Bogart is up and about, playing with his new-found friend Buttons, a cocker spaniel. He drags the nerve-damaged front paw and Buttons often runs alongside of him and holds that paw up. And yes, I sometimes wonder, even now, if I did the right thing. Realistically I know that even before you read this Bogart probably will have had surgery once more, this time to remove that damaged part of his leg.

How often you and I are given decisions to make. How often we wonder if we really made the right decisions, if we did the right thing. A new year gives us a time to consider the past and to start afresh, it provides time to reflect.

This time of year it pays to reflect. To stand in front of the full-length mirror of memory and experiences and to study what we see. Thoughtfully. Silently. Alone. We should study the outline of the past without rude interruption of routine tasks. This might be done while walking along a shore or down a mountain path. While we sit in front of a crackling fireplace or while we listen to some piece of grand music. Invariably these occasions leave us feeling grateful to God. They give us the opportunity to thank Him specifically for something or someone that He provided in the yesterdays of our lives who makes our todays more meaningful.

It is no coincidence that the new year comes along during the winter. Just the sound of the word *winter* seems to whisper through our lips and send chills up and down our spines. Winter seems to speak of barrenness, frigid feelings, icy shadows, naked branches. Days are short and nights are long and the fun of last summer seems to fade beyond our recollection.

(Of course everyone does not agree. Ski buffs and snow lovers thoroughly enjoy this time of year. And we must not forget the joy of Christmas, the celebration of the new year . . . and you get enough warm feelings to make anyone forget the temperature. What a difference perspective makes.)

Winter provides us the ideal occasion to slow down. It yields forth a few extra hours for quiet reverence. It is a good time of the year.

The seasons of the year follow a cycle: winter, spring, summer, and fall, so that the earth might enjoy all the things the Creator designed for it to enjoy . . . and so that we might enjoy them too. Life is, in many ways, the same. Multiple seasons, not a long monotonous marathon of pointless futility, but variety, peaks and valleys, change and color. How tragic to move through the seasons without realizing their ultimate purpose.

Spend your winter days reflecting on the mercies and gifts God has given you. You will be glad you did. It will give more direction for the new year.

(Oh, and as for Bogart, I did the right thing!)

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

New 1988 calendars are in place as 1987 becomes little more than a memory and history. The old year was one of scandal. They existed on the political front as the Iran-Contra ordeal elevated Lt. Colonel Oliver North to a hero and nearly brought down our government. Two ministers, Pat Robertson and Jesse Jackson, entered the presidential race, while two other candidates, Gary Hart and Joe Biden, left because of scandals. (Of course, we all know Mr. Hart is back in the race—right now, anyway.) The First Lady had a malignancy removed; and a former President's daughter was arrested for the fourth time. A former Miss America also "fell from grace" when she was accused of influencing a judge.

The year saw a verdict in the Bernhard Goetz trial, a settlement in the Baby M case, and a Nazi war criminal brought to justice.

1987 was another sad year for the nation's AIDS victims. It also brought about the realization of the frightening future which lies ahead.

The religious scene was also in the spotlight last year. Few folks heard about Evangelist Billy Graham falling and breaking several ribs because of all the hoopla that surrounded the Oral Roberts plea for money and the Jim Bakker sex scam.

It is our prayer that 1988 will yield better days.

## JANUARY

The year began on a most unusual note: with an appeal for $4.5 million. In asking for money to fund medical missionaries, the Tulsa, Oklahoma, evangelist said, "I'm asking you to help extend my life. We're at the point where God could call Oral Roberts home in March."

## FEBRUARY

Dr. Robert McQuilkin, of Columbia Bible College, spoke at the World Missions Conference, sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions, held at Mount Olive College.

## MARCH

Communications satellites and call-in (800) pledges enabled Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker in just thirteen years to build a $129-million-a-year "electronic tent show" complete with fifteen million viewers and its own religious theme park. Yet what brought down their PTL empire was decidedly low-tech: Bakker's sex fling that he tried to cover up through bribery. Jim's public repentance and Tammy's scenes of tearful forgiveness didn't work. They resigned. Amid subsequent Elmer Gantryesque revelations such as million-dollar salaries and outlandish perks, the PTL ministry was declared bankrupt. Jim and Tammy now live nomadically in borrowed digs on a Malibu beach. They face a federal investigation for tax evasion and mail fraud but vow to start anew.

The Rev. Jerry Falwell took over the helm of the crippled ministry. After pleas for support and a ride down a theme park slide, Falwell and the "new" PTL Board of Directors resigned.

The Rev. Jimmy Swaggert stood on the sidelines and pled that God would "deliver us from these pretty little boys with their hair done and their nails done, calling themselves preachers of the gospel."

Sound Side resident Madge VanHorne was recognized by the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention as its first Teacher of the Year.

## APRIL

Gary Hart announced his candidancy for the Democratic presidential nomination by making a strong pitch for values, only to leave the race five weeks later due to the revelation of his infidelity.

Locally, the Rev. Bruce Dudley became general manager of Camp Vandemere on April 1. The first tour group of North Carolina residents arrived in the Philippines two days later. On the 11th, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home reopened Deans Cottage.

## MAY

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Board approved the Fourth Plan of Admissions on May 5. Ten days later, the van der Plas family left the Philippines on furlough.

The nation was saddened on May 17. While patrolling international waters, the frigate Stark detected an Iraqi jet approaching and veering away. Ninety seconds later, two Exocet missiles slammed into the ship. Thirty-seven American crewmen were killed.

## JUNE

The PTL scandal continued to brew. Greenville, NC, evangelist Jim Whittington rescinded an earlier job offer extended to Jim and Tammy Bakker. The entire affair held the nation's attention for months, bringing on comments such as this one made by a Charlotte, NC, waitress: "It's like Mickey and Minnie have been kicked out of Disney World."

On a brighter note, the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions entered into a cooperative agreement with the Slavic Gospel Association. The agreement calls for the Board to help provide support for North Carolina natives Dwight and Aileen Hawley as they minister in eastern Europe.

## JULY

Kansas, the first state to go dry in 1881, became the 48th state to go wet, leaving only Utah and West Virginia limiting liquor sales to private clubs.

Free Will Baptist missionaries Willem, Lydia and Dirk van der Plas arrived in the United States on the tenth.

## AUGUST

In a Guatemala City hotel room, five Central American leaders thrashed out a regional cease-fire accord. At 4 a.m., Costa Rican president Oscar Arias Sanchez signed the document which earned him the Nobel Peace Prize. "I told them 24 million people want and deserve peace."

Fifty died in the bloodiest attempted coup in the Philippines since Corazon Aquino took office.

After the public testimony of twenty-nine witnesses, the Iran-Contra hearings ended.

## SEPTEMBER

The 75th Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists convened the 15-16th. The Headquarters Improvement Project was approved at that time, a project providing additional office

(Turn the Page)

space, a conference room, an employee lounge, work and storage areas, and restroom facilities in the Headquarters.

On the 17th, Philadelphia and the nation celebrated the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution.

Pope John Paul II's ten-day, 17,000 mile trek through seven states and northern Canada also took place this month.

## OCTOBER

The final payment on Camp Vandemere was made on the 9th.

The Retirement Homes Board purchased a home in Smithfield, NC. (The Rev. and Mrs. Edward C. Taylor have now moved in this home.)

The first Free Will Baptist missionary child was born in the Philippines on the 27th. Andrew Joseph Grubbs, the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs, was born at 8:16 p.m. (Manila time). He weighed in at 6 lbs. 8 oz. and was 19 inches long.

On the national scene, there was Black Monday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped a record 508 points on October 19. Within six hours of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, $500,000,000,000 went phfft! $500 billion! That equals the entire gross national product of France; and all the gold held by all the governments and their banks on earth.

## NOVEMBER

Arab League leaders met in Amman for their first summit in five years and appealed for the end of the Iran-Iraq war.

Locally, the celebration of Debt Retirement and Dedication for Camp Vandemere was held on the 22nd; Mount Olive College celebrated its 36th year of operation on the 27th.

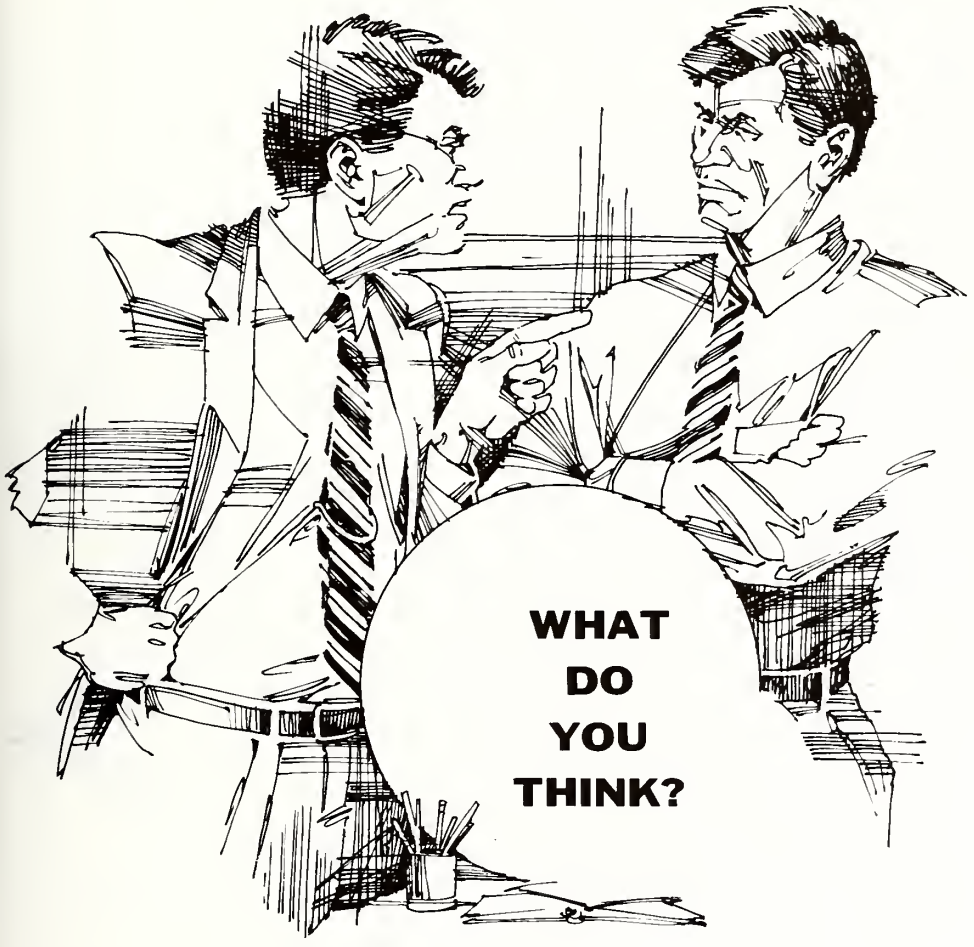
## DECEMBER

The month began with a meeting of fraternal delegates at Cragmont Assembly, with delegations from the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Churches of God (General Conference) and General Baptists all present.

Terry Anderson's hostage experience was overshadowed by the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. On December 10, Mr. Anderson marked his 1,000th day of captivity. He has been held longer than any other hostage.

The usual Christmas crowd in Bethlehem was not nearly as large in 1987, as fighting kept many religious pilgrims away.






**THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:**

## RELIGION AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On Monday night, December 7, 1987, the Pitt County Board of Education adopted a religion policy with minor editorial changes despite pleas from several local citizens to significantly modify the policy.

Nine people addressed the Board to commend and to offer modifications to the policy as others in the audience periodically signaled their approval of comments by clapping and remarking "Amen," while disapproval often was vented by extraneous individual comments to the Board or to speakers addressing the Board.

During one such outburst, Rabbi Michael Weisser, who was addressing the Board, said, "This hostility I feel tonight is all in the name of love."

A specific policy receiving a lot of public attention was one which allows the superintendent's office to review programs and lesson plans during the initial year of the policy. In following years, the programs and plans would be reviewed by the school principal.

Lynn R. Buzzard, professor of Constitutional Law and director of the church-state resource center at Campbell University School of Law, addressed those concerns at the Board meeting. Buzzard also was a member of the task force, serving as a legal consultant.

The goal of the task force was to draft a "general policy and not the procedural components," he said. And he suggested the word "superintendent" be substituted with the phrase "an appropriate administrator."

Another concern with the omission of grades kindergarten through eight in the specific policy addressing extracurricular student groups and their freedom to establish groups and conduct meetings on school property during noninstructional time in the school day.

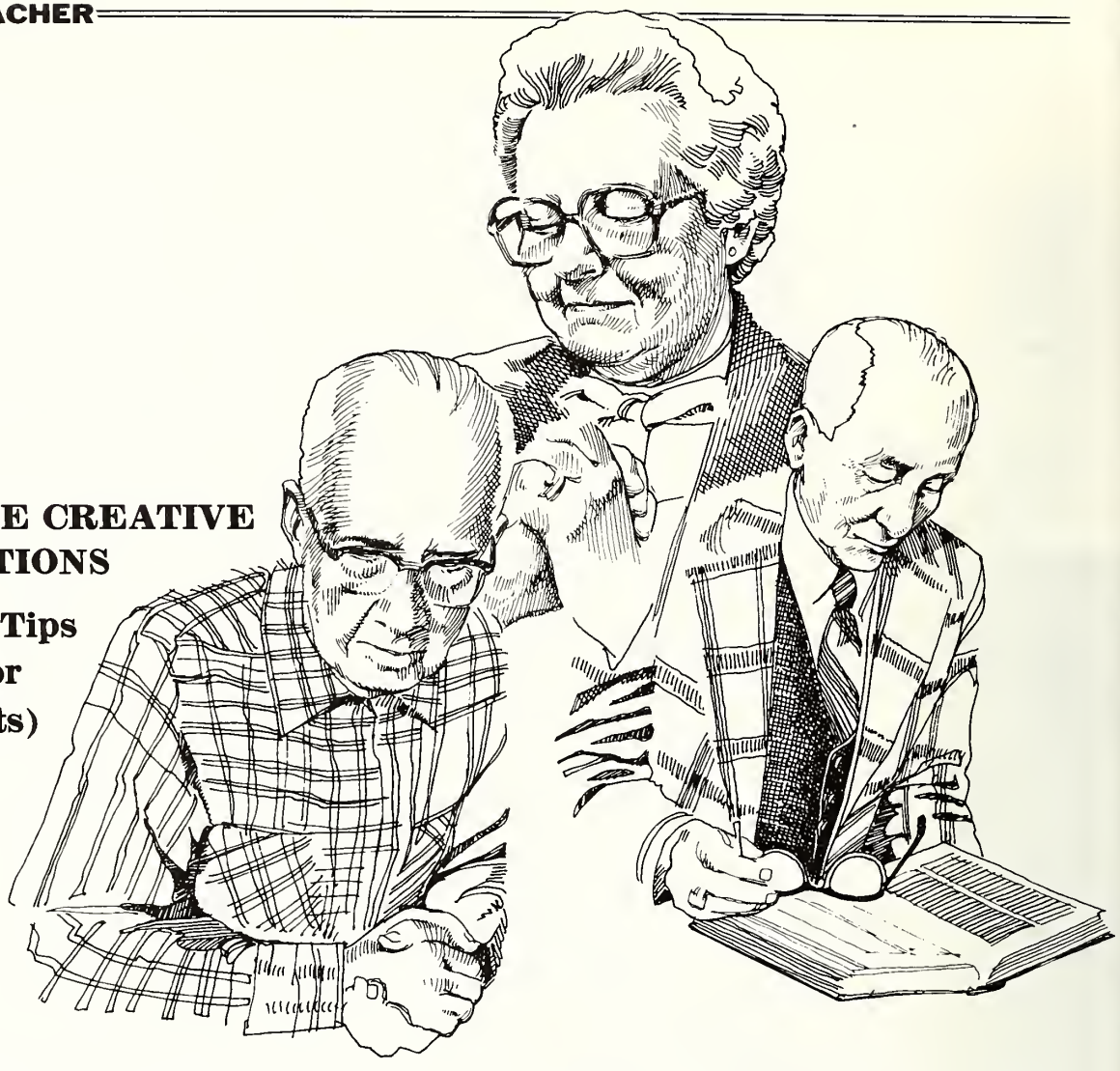
Buzzard said that policy was drafted with the Equal Access Act to protect the rights of secondary school students. While primary school students do have rights to assemble, there is no specific law to quote on that issue, he said.

Religion in the Pitt County schools has been a sensitive issue since an administrative memo was distributed to the schools in 1986 requesting that programs and activities be neutral on religion. The Board, according to the policy introduction, "seeks to foster among all students and personnel the attitudes of appreciation, sensitivity, and respect for the rich religious diversity of our community and nation, and to accommodate student religious beliefs and practices whenever educationally feasible and constitutionally permissible."

The new policy was implemented immediately to provide a guide for the 1987 holiday program.

How do you feel about this? What role should our public schools play? Is there a place for religion in our schools, or does the teaching of religion belong to parents and the church?

Please send your comments to: Editor, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.



# HOW TO GIVE CREATIVE DEVOTIONS

## (Some Tips for Superintendents)

*by Bass Mitchell*

Often Sunday School superintendents are called upon to give a devotion. Sometimes it's in an assembly or in some other meeting in regard to the Sunday School. In fact, in those Sunday Schools that still have assemblies, the "devotion" or "superintendent's talk" is regularly used.

A devotion should be used from time to time. It can be quite effective. The problem is that it has been over used and often poorly prepared and presented.

Giving a meaningful devotion is not easy. It takes a good deal of thought and time. Also, it requires some basic knowledge of how to prepare and present it. The purpose of this article is to provide you with such knowledge.

### SUGGESTIONS ON PREPARING AND PRESENTING DEVOTIONS

**Keep It Brief!**

A devotion should be short. Three to five minutes is about right. Rarely should it be longer than five minutes.

**Write It Out!**

You should always write out the devotion word for word. Why? Because this will force you to really think through every part of it. When you write out something fully, it makes you concentrate more on what you want to say and how best to say it.

Now writing out the devotion may lead to a tendency to merely read it. That's okay if you read well. However, it's better to know it so well that you can share it without even looking at your notes.

**Practice It!**

Practice delivering the devotion. Try it out on your family. Get their response and suggestions. And to see how you present it, practice in front of a mirror. Watch for unconscious mannerisms and nervous habits which may be distracting.

I once made this suggestion in a workshop with superintendents. A few weeks later one of them wrote to me. He had discovered that whenever he spoke before others he kept a hand in his pocket and constantly rattled change. He had never noticed this before. I dare say that it was already well known to his people!

**Get Participation!**

From time to time you may wish to involve the people in the devotion. Perhaps you could ask for their response to it or for some experience that illustrates it. A good devotion should touch some concerns and experiences they can share.

The lesson for that Sunday was on how God uses persons to minister to us. I shared a devotion on how God often provides the right helpers for us at the right times. Afterward, I asked them to share examples of the right helpers God has given them. It was a meaningful assembly and helped open up further discussion in the classes.

## DEVOTIONAL TOPICS AND RESOURCES

The subject matter for devotions is unlimited. However, I like to relate it to some aspect of Sunday School—like teaching, spiritual growth, outreach, and so on. But any topic that provides meaningful insight into Christian living can be used.

**Look at the Lesson**

You could base it on the Sunday School lesson for the day. I often do this. I share some thoughts on the lesson and what really speaks to me in it. This can help teachers "get into" the lesson in class. It can act as a springboard into class discussion.

**Share Your Own**

Use your own devotions. Often these are the most meaningful because they come right out of your own experiences.

Here's a suggestion. Keep a notepad with you to jot down devotional ideas which come to you as you read, work, and go about your everyday activities. They can be developed later. Many good insights are lost because they were not written down.



**Using Objects**

Use objects in your devotions. Stop for a moment and think about all the objects Jesus used in His teachings.

When the Sunday School lesson was on John 15:1-8, I came to assembly with a withered branch. I related this to our relationship with Christ and how the Sunday School had helped me "abide" in Him.

If you are considering a devotion, read the lesson for the day. Does it suggest an object you could use? Often it will.

Any visual aid will help increase the impact of your devotion. It will allow them to see as well as hear your message. Thus, they will get more out of it and remember it longer.

**Other Resources**

You could use a devotional resource like *Open Windows,* or *The Upper Room,* or *Our Daily Bread.* Often the meditations in them provide illuminating insights into the Christian life. Many could be read as written.

Sometimes just reading a passage from a spiritual classic can be very effective. Some of my favorites are: *The Imitation of Christ, The Cloud of Unknowing, Abandonment to Divine Providence, The Confessions of St. Augustine,* and *The Practice of the Presence of God.* These books and many others provide rich devotional materials.

Another great source for devotions is not a printed one. It's a human one! In other words, you do not always have to give the devotion. Let others do it. Come up with a list of persons in your church who could give good devotions. Use them whenever you can.

Over a period of time, your devotions could have a tremendous impact on your Sunday School. They can provide insight, guidance, inspiration—if you prepare them prayerfully and carefully.



# IT'S NOT HARD TO PREVENT SUICIDE

*by George Nichols, M.D.*

My son Bill killed himself last summer. A year later, we still miss him, and the sorrow is slow to disappear. We hear a lot in the news about the tragedy of suicide, but not nearly enough about prevention. As a doctor, and as a father, I am very concerned that the topic of suicide should be presented properly, because I think we now know enough to look at suicide with more understanding, and this can save some of these precious lives.

## WHAT TO KNOW

Most suicides are due to an underlying depression. *Depression is an illness,* and it is very

**DEPRESSION IS THE USUAL CAUSE**

common. It affects about 10-15% of all men, and 20-30% of all women at some time during their lives. It hurts families and careers; it destroys people. Yet, surprisingly and sadly, most people fail to recognize it either in themselves or in their loved ones. What makes this especially tragic is that depression is so curable.

**BUT NO ONE RECOGNIZES THE SIGNS**

Many who suffer don't come to the doctor for an official diagnosis. They look quite normal and they walk about in public, among friends and family, displaying the classic signs of depression, but usually they meet no one who understands what the signs mean. Their illness remains unrecognized. Many recover, but some of these folks die. Families and friends could save them if only they could *suspect* the disorder.

**RECOGNIZING DEPRESSION**

Since we have no reliable tests for depression, we depend on symptoms and signs. Any symptom, by itself, may be normal; and almost all of us have "the blues" now and then; but when these symptoms occur in combinations and when they persist, *real depression* may be indicated.

**EVERYONE SHOULD LEARN THESE DOZEN SIGNS OF DEPRESSIVE ILLNESS:**

1. Recurrent thoughts of death and suicide
2. Mood is sad and unhappy; but sometimes irritable and anxious; and some deny mood change
3. Feelings of hopelessness, of being worthless, and of self-reproach
4. Crying, or inability to cry
5. Withdrawn
6. Loss of interest and of pleasure in things
7. Neglect of personal appearance and of self-care
8. Trouble thinking and concentrating
9. Difficulty with sleep: may have trouble falling asleep, but often awakening too early, or sleeping too much
10. Change in appetite or weight
11. Physically: slow and tired, or may be agitated and restless
12. Complaints of physical ill health: e.g., fast heartbeat, headache, constipation, chronic pain (Symptoms like these are common but misleading, and disguise the underlying sadness; they probably mean that the person is worried about himself and is asking for help in approved [nonemotional] words.)

Some depressed people, especially youths, may not appear sad and hopeless outwardly, but instead may act rebellious, become involved with alcohol or other drugs, may fail subjects in school, or stop going altogether.

Occasionally, your first suspicion that someone is seriously depressed occurs when you feel a little gloomy yourself after talking with him. (It rubs off.)

And it is always possible to ask a person directly how he feels—probably more directly than you realize.

**IS THIS A PROBLEM?**

**OR IS THIS A DEPRESSION?**

For someone who is depressed, life's problems are especially difficult, so that depression can easily mimic a normal reaction to trouble. Even a pastor may not always realize that he is dealing with a risky depressive illness if one of his flock asks for help with a personal problem.

**EVEN MORE SERIOUS SIGNS**

Suicide becomes even more of a threat with these danger signs:

1. Increasing distance and withdrawal from family and friends
2. Absence of hope
3. Hearing voices and other disordered thinking
4. Talking of suicide

(Turn the Page)

5. Giving away prized possessions—e.g., trophies, hi fi and sports equipment, baseball cards; "I won't be needing these any more."
6. Putting affairs in order—e.g. returning long-borrowed items; final contact (unspoken goodbyes) with important friends and relatives.
7. Sudden improvement (no longer painfully undecided)

Having counselors, ministers, crisis centers, social programs, and people willing to talk with us when we are troubled—these are wonderful resources for many things, *but not for depressive illness.* It's not enough. We can't stop there.

**AN ILLNESS, NOT A SOCIAL PROBLEM**

*Serious depression is not primarily a social or a counseling problem.* It is an illness whose sadness has grown beyond words and beyond self-control.

**WHAT TO DO**

**NOT THE TIME TO TALK AND ADVISE**

If you suspect depression, or if you are concerned that someone is suicidal, don't decide to watch and wait. We can't leave the treatment up to the one who is depressed, because he is not himself. His thinking and judgment are impaired. This is not the time for sympathizing, or just listening, or trying to restore hope. And don't just lecture and tell him to "shape up"; he's not able. Delaying treatment is risky. He does need your help.

**TAKE HIM TO THE DOCTOR—**

**JUST AS YOU WOULD FOR PNEUMONIA**

So step right in and take him to his doctor, or to a psychiatrist, who can verify your amateur diagnosis, and who can prescribe the antidepressant medicines which are so often needed along with psychotherapy. The outlook, then improves.

**RELIGION AND SUICIDE**

I think it is only natural that the role of religion is sometimes misplaced, because suicide appears to be based on a wrong decision, and because we believe that faith and prayer strengthen people in making good decisions. But, as I have said, a person with a depressive illness has lost his ability to think and to judge normally. His poor brain is sick. We cannot blame him for making the wrong decision when he is depressed, any more than we would blame him for faulty thinking if he were sick with schizophrenia. Fortunately, depressive illness usually responds well to medical treatment.

**A SICK BRAIN IS NOT LOGICAL**

**SUICIDE PREVENTION IS A PUBLIC MATTER**

**IT IS NOT HARD TO PREVENT SUICIDE**

Understanding suicide may be difficult, but preventing suicide is *not* a complicated social problem. Prevention depends mainly on recognizing the depressive illness which usually comes first. Spotting depression is not only for teachers and counselors. It's time now that *all* of us learned how.

**SPOTTING DEPRESSION SAVES LIVES**

Public recognition of depression is almost nonexistent at present. Society has not failed these people. We just haven't seen them clearly before. Shame and stigma have held us back. We publicize the signs of cancer, and we even teach the public "CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Why not a simple uncomplicated program to show *everyone*—how to recognize depression? I think your own doctor might be willing to help. I am one doctor who has learned from personal experience. That's why I have written this for you.

For more information on depression, ask your doctor, or a psychiatrist. Ask about depression questionnaires.

Ask a lady in Minneapolis who talks and writes on suicide. Her booklet, "Your Child Has Died," is the best immediate solice and treatment I know of for families who are left behind after this tragedy. Write: Adina Wrobleski, 5124 Grove St., Minneapolis, MN 55436.

And for a more complete discussion of suicide prevention, please send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Dr. George Nichols, 424 East Longview Drive, Appleton, Wisconsin 54911.

## FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Following is a letter received from a young girl who lives in the Philippines. I believe you will find her letter interesting and that many of you will want to become friends with her.—Editor



Dearest Janie,

My warmest greetings to you and to your family circle, especially your loved ones. Well, maybe you will be amazed upon receiving this very unfamiliar handwritten letter from the Philippines. First, I would like to share with you how I got your address. My sister is working at Palawan Bible College, Palawan, Philippines. She got it from a magazine. You know, I'm really so glad to hear that you are also collecting new friends. It is also one of my hobbies to have new friends from other countries, especially there in your country.

I would like to introduce to you my humble self.

I'm Miss Jenna Abala Rodriquez. My friends call me Jie or Jenny. I am 19 years old, 5'9½'' in height; have black hair, brown complexion and a slim body. I'm not so beautiful, but I'm proud to tell you that I have a Filipino beauty. I was born on March 8, 1968, here in the Philippines.

Presently I am a college student, taking up commerce, a four-year course. I'm studying in Palawan State College, Palawan, Philippines. Well, about my ambition, I want to be a flight stewardess someday, if God is willing.

My hobbies are collecting new friends, playing the guitar, cycling, eating, watching television, listening to music, going on outings, swimming. (I don't know how to swim; that's why I'm trying to swim and swim.)

I have not got a boyfriend or sweetheart. I think my ideal man is very hard to find. That's why I'm interested in having a friend there as I know that he's there. Oh! I'm only kidding. He will be taller than me, kind, understanding, possibly even not so handsome.

My likes? I like people who are kind, understanding and loving. I do not care for those who are snobbish, naughty and opposite from me.

God loves you always,

*Jenny*

Those young people interested in writing Jenny are encouraged to do so. Her address is as follows: Jenna A. Rodriquez, c/o Rosana R. Brones, Brgy. Bancao Bancao, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines 2901.

## PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

The staff at the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some tips for making the process easier.

1. Typewrite all copy. Use 8½ x 11 inch paper; smaller paper can get lost or misplaced. Do not strike over letters, and make all erasures as neat as possible. Be sure that the typewriter ribbon gives a clear copy.

2. Keep a copy of all material typed. This will avoid the possibility of having to redo the item in case of loss.

3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches down from the top of page one. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page; and for convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on one side of page only.

4. Leave a margin of at least an inch on both sides of paper.

5. Never write perpendicularly in the margin.

6. Write no more than one article on a sheet.

7. Do not divide a word between pages. Avoid dividing words between lines as much as possible.

8. Clip pages together, using paper clips. Do not staple pages.

9. Read, reread, and correct your own copy before submitting this. This is most important and will expedite matters greatly toward early publication.

10. If words, phrases, or sentences are of particular importance to the point of needing to be emphasized, indicate such by underlining or underscoring.

11. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation, inasmuch as possible.

12. Prepare your articles and reports as early in advance as possible so as not to delay their publication. It should be noted

(Continued on Page 32)

# LOOKING FOR SNOW

*by Lynette Sumerlin*

I'm ready for a nice big snowfall! How about you? I like to play around in the snow, go down hills or across the yard on the sled, have friendly snowball "fights," and build a snowman. It's the time of year now when we can be on the lookout for a snowy day. The snow makes everything seem so clean and white. Did you know the Bible speaks of snow? As you follow the correct path in the maze, pick up the letters and numbers as you go to find out the verse Mr. Snowman is reading in his Bible.



# FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES, INC. IN REVIEW

*by the Rev. Walter J. Sutton*

In February, 1974, Mr. Sam Weeks, superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. appointed a committee from that institution's Board of Directors to study the feasibility and/or desirability of establishing a Free Will Baptist retirement center in the eastern part of North Carolina. The members of this committee were the Rev. Graham Lane, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, Mr. Sam Weeks, and Mrs. Rebecca Davenport.

The committee mailed questionnaires to each Free Will Baptist church and pastor, requesting their cooperation in supplying information which would be helpful to the committee in preparing its report. Seventy-three percent of the churches responded favorably, expressing that a retirement ministry was needed for the retired of the denomination. On August 24, 1974, the Board of Directors of the Children's Home approved the report. On August 28, 1974, the Board of Superannuation (Ministers' Program) voted to present the recommendation jointly with the Board of Directors of the Children's Home to the Sixty-second Annual Session of the State Convention which would meet at Kenan Memorial Auditorium, Kenansville, NC, September 11-12, 1974.

The Convention approved the recommendation contingent upon ratification of the annual conferences which would be meeting later in the fall. Six conferences ratified the recommendation. Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc. ministry was established January 1, 1975. Its charter was received February 6, 1975. In July, tax-exempt status was granted by the state and federal authorities.

The Retirement Homes ministry had received as a gift a twenty-three acre tract of land free of all encumbrances. This property was adjacent to the Children's Home, Middlesex, NC. The Retirement Homes Board (Children's Home and Superannuation Boards) began to plan ways of developing this property into a retirement center. Brother David W. Hansley did a landscape drawing which called for twelve buildings to be constructed. Each building would have two duplex apartments built to accommodate the needs of retired families. Ground-breaking and construction began on the first building July 18, 1976. Upon completion it was dedicated and named the George P. Best Home. It was so named because Mr. Best had left a sum of money with the Board of Superannuation with the request that it be used to provide care and housing for Free Will Baptist ministers. The Retirement Homes Board used this money to pay a portion of the construction cost of these apartments. One of these apartments will always be available for any retired minister who requests to live in that area.




The Retirement Homes ministry continued to expand. Retired families applied for admission. With a desire to help these families, the ministry negotiated a ten-year lease with the Children's Home for the Dawson Cottage. At that time it was not in use. So, the Retirement Homes program renovated this cottage at a cost of $12,683.62. With renovation completed and three new apartments, three new families were admitted into care. Families continued to apply, so in 1982 we negotiated a twelve-month rental agreement with the Children's Home for an apartment in the Albemarle Cottage. Immediately, it was rented to a retired family which continues to live there today.

At the 1982 session of the State Convention meeting at Lenoir Community College, Kinston, NC,

September 15-16, the Convention voted at the request of the Retirement Homes program to set up its own Board of Directors separate from the Children's Home and the Superannuation Board. The new board would consist of ten members. Each conference would represent with one member per fifty churches. The terms of two members would expire each year. Today this Board meets quarterly at the Headquarters Building with the chairman serving as director.

In the spring of 1984, the Retirement Homes program established an office with secretarial service in the Free Will Baptist Headquarters Building, Ayden, NC. In addition, a house was purchased in Ayden, which was renovated and rented to Mrs. Rose Bowen. In the fall of 1986, another home was purchased in Ayden. This home was renovated and divided into two apartments. These apartments are rented today to retired Free Will Baptist people. In the late summer of 1987, we purchased another home, located in the west section of Smithfield. This home is rented to the Rev. and Mrs. Edward C. Taylor, who are retired from the Free Will Baptist ministry.

In the mid-part of 1987, the Retirement Homes Board approved a new plan of admission, *the resident lives in his own home.* Retired families admitted into our care according to the terms of this plan may continue to live in their own homes and receive our schedule of benefits in the form of cash payments each month. At present, we have three families receiving these benefits. They are the Rev. James A. Evans, Mr. Jasper Bunnell, and Mrs. Chaston Davis, formerly Mrs. Walter L. Jernigan. Mrs. Gertrude Ballard was received back into our care on December 1, 1987. She resides with Autumn Home Care near Selma, NC. Each person in our care pays to the Retirement Homes ministry each month 30% of his retirement income.

Briefly we have reviewed what Free Will Baptists have done to show the retired of the denomination their appreciation for their Christian service and contributions to the growth and spiritual well-being of the church and denomination during their active years. It is evident that we do not intend to neglect this growing and important part of our membership any longer. We will continue to reach out and lend our help to our retired. More and more active Free Will Baptist people will help us. Growing and prospering Free Will Baptist churches will help us care for the retired. The prayers and gifts of churches and Christian people have made us and brought us where we are today. They will take us into the future with even greater success.

Next month we will discuss *Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes and the Vision of What Lies Ahead.*

## JANUARY, 1988
## RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH
"A Caring Ministry for the Retired"

We provide:
- Community-based homes and apartments
- Utilities
- Home appliances and yard maintenance
- Monthly cash benefits
- Placement services in retirement centers

Our Sources of Funds:
- 30% of each resident's monthly income
- Offerings from Free Will Baptist churches
- Gifts from friends

Your Means of Contact:
- Office: Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513
- Telephone (919) 746-4963

Promotional Items for the Local Church
- Bulletins
- Inserts
- Brochures

Contact our office. We really do care for the retired of the denomination. We will help.

Retirement Homes, Inc. requests a gift from each church on Sunday, January 24, 1988. Your gift will be appreciated.

# MEET OUR RETIREES



**Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Vowell**
(Dawson House)
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557
238-4849



**Mrs. Essie Huggins**
(Best Home)
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557
235-4966



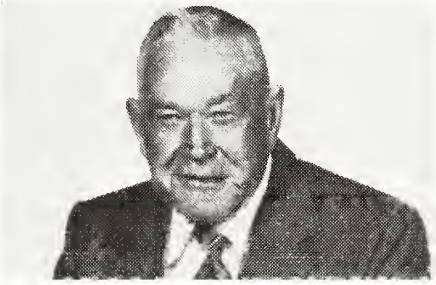
**Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Patterson**
(Albemarle Cottage)
Box 457
Middlesex, NC 27557
235-3338



**Mrs. Thelma Rullie**
(Dawson House)
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557



**Miss Bonnie Farmer**
(Best Home)
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557



**Mr. Oliver Dunn**
102 Power Street, Apartment B
Ayden, NC 28513
746-6063



**Mrs. Rose Bowen**
411 North Lee Street
Ayden, NC 28513
746-4106



**Mrs. Gertrude Ballard**
c/o Autumn Care Home
Route 2, Box 43
Selma, NC 27576
964-3435



**The Rev. James A. Evans**
Route 1, Box 100-C
Seven Springs, NC 28578
569-4111



**The Rev. and Mrs. Jasper Bunnell**
Route 4, Box 159
Bladenboro, NC 28320



**The Rev. and Mrs. Edward Taylor**
307 Shady Lane Drive
Smithfield, NC 27577
934-9904



**Mr. and Mrs. Chaston Davis**
Route 1, Box 363
Bladenboro, NC 28320
648-4876



(Left to right) Front row: Lorraine Garner, Janet Brown, Lois Everington, Stanley Jenkins, Billy Harris; second row: De Eakes, David C. Hansley, Bruce Dudley, Carroll Hawkins, Emmitt Jones, Ralph Sumner, Bill Taylor and Allen Dunn.

# CAMP VANDEMERE DEDICATED TO GOD

*by the Rev. Bruce Dudley*

Joy, happiness, thankfulness, awe, relief are but a few of the words which could be used to describe the emotions felt on November 22, 1987, at Camp Vandemere. For that was the day of our *Celebration of Debt Retirement and Dedication.* It was a beautiful day, the weather clear and cold, but the cold did not lessen the enthusiasm of the more than 175 people who attended the occasion, for "our camp" is paid for.

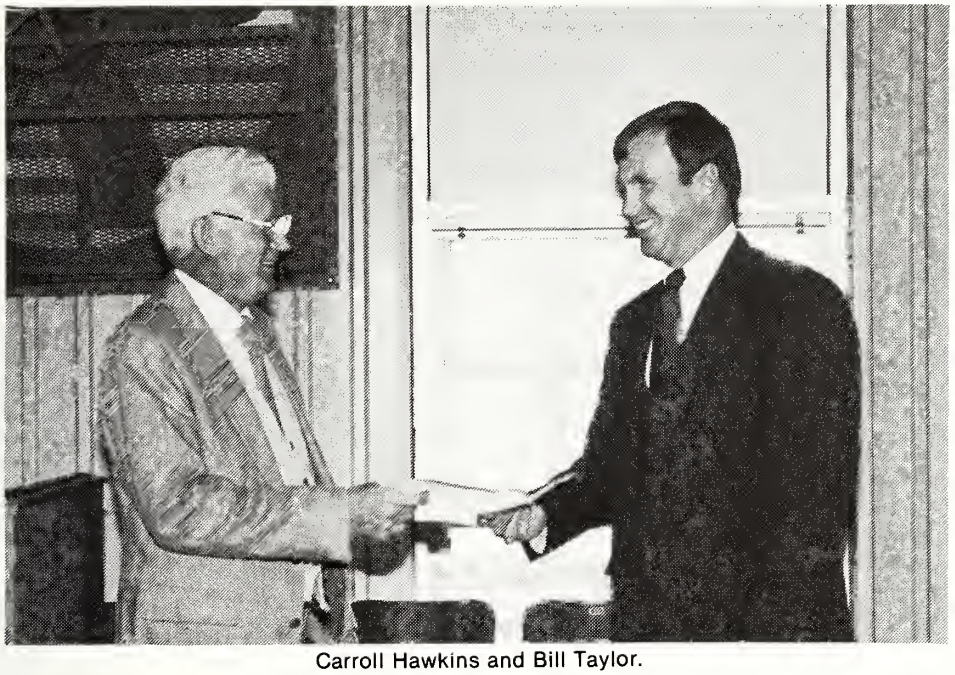
The afternoon activities began at 1:30, with an hour "prelude" of Christian music presented by several area singing groups. The lack of space prohibits a detailed listing, but special thanks are due to: The Rev. E. S. "Buddy" Sasser, who served as coordinator; the Rev. Doug Skinner, for providing the public address system; and the many persons of the Fifth Eastern Union Revival Choir.

At 2:30, the dedication proper began with a processional led by representatives of several churches carrying Bibles, Christian Flags and American Flags. Next came the current Board Members and special guests, followed by former Board Members and concluding with our ministers.

The Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor of Arapahoe Church and president of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association, gave the invocation, followed by the welcome by the Honorable Billy Harris, mayor of Vandemere and member of the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere, Inc. Then, Mrs. Lois Everington, member of the Board of Directors, read the Scripture, Psalm 8. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all current and former members of the Board of Directors on behalf of the Camp by the Rev. Bruce Dudley, general manager.

Mr. Carroll Hawkins, treasurer, made the announcement, that on October 9, 1987, the final payment was made and on behalf of the Camp received the symbolic canceled note from Mr. Bill Taylor, representative of Cooperative Savings and Loan Association, Washington, NC. Then, while the Fifth Union Revival Choir sang "To God Be the Glory," Mr. Allen Dunn, vice chairman of the Board of Directors, and Mr. Stanley Jenkins, member of the Board of Directors, burned the note. After the last flame had died, the Rev. David C. Hansley, moderator of the Eastern Conference, prayed the dedicatory prayer.

Words of congratulations and best wishes from the Rev. De W. Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church and president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, very



Carroll Hawkins and Bill Taylor.

meaningfully set the stage for "Beams From the Lighthouse" by Mrs. Janet Brown. Mrs. Brown, a member of the Board of Directors, reviewed briefly the history of Camp Vandemere and shared some dreams and possibilities for its future ministry.

"Look to the Lighthouse" was sung by Mrs. Annie Belle Hines accompanied by Mrs. Mary Dudley, First Church, Kinston, and the Rev. Emmitt Jones, secretary of the Board of Directors, preached the worship message. Mr. Jones challenged the Camp and the congregation to develop a vision of ministry, through concerned and dedicated service, to people in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Following the benediction by Mrs. Lorraine Garner, member of the Board of Directors, refreshments consisting of doughnuts, coffee, tea and lemonade were provided.

It was a glorious day! "O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people" (Psalm 117:1).

**Conference Expands Board**

In its ninety-second annual session the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina meeting at Saints Delight Church, near Bridgeton, on October 21-22, 1987, amended its Constitution to increase the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere from eleven to fifteen members, and to provide for members from the other conferences and associations which are members of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Churches. It is hoped that this change will encourage all Free Will Baptists to participate in every phase of the growth and development of Camp Vandemere.

Plans are to have a member of the Board of Directors from each conference and association as soon as vacancies will permit and persons are found to serve. The increased size of the Board allowed for the inclusion of members from five at this year's conference; they are: The Rev. Calvin Heath, Cape Fear Conference; Mrs. Betty Whitley, Albemarle Conference; the Rev. Leon Grubbs, Central Conference; Mrs. Nancy Hardee, Pee Dee Association; and the Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow, Western Conference. It is with pleasure and gratitude that we welcome these new Board members to the Camp Vandemere family and its ministry.

**Season Summary**

The 1987 season has been a very good one in terms of service, for it has been our privilege to have more than 580 people as guests on our campus. These have been part of 21 organized groups, with participants from more than 50 of our Free Will Baptist churches and five of our conference districts. Included this season was a ministers' retreat, a women's week, three youth weeks, the Mount Olive College Religious Life Retreat and several "church retreats."

In addition, we have had a number of "drop-ins" who enjoyed picnicking, fishing or just visiting. Also, it was our pleasure to have the Pamlico County Mount Olive College Dinner, attended by approximately 100 persons, on our campus again this year.

We are indeed grateful for these opportunities to serve.

**What's Ahead?**

After the long struggle to achieve debt-free status on our property, with its attendant sacrificial giving and tireless effort by our churches and people, it would be grand to back-off and catch our breath. However, this is a luxury that we can ill afford, for tomorrow comes, whether or not we are ready, and the legacy of yesterday is still with us.

The pressure of debt payments forced the putting-off of much regular maintenance and called for temporary measures that now demand attention. For instance, our kitchen needs some plumbing repairs and additional fixtures. Also, our cabinets and work surfaces need refinishing to assure continuing sanitary and healthy service. Several refrigeration units need refurbishing or replacement. The bath area of our dorm needs serious updating and our "green" bathhouse requires extensive work to meet proper health and sanitation requirements.



Allen Dunn and Stanley Jenkins

As if this were not enough, we have to seriously consider our traffic and parking needs and the general safety and functional condition of our grounds. Equipment and facilities for games and recreation must be provided, for our present situation is quite inadequate. Careful and prayerful consideration must be given to the expressed wishes of our people for more suitable and flexible lodging. Our physical needs are extensive.

Yet, we must not forget the most important; the sine qua non of our existence, Christian ministry and spiritual growth. The 21st century will soon be upon us and the Christ of the Cross challenges us, as never before, to share His love and teach His truth. Therefore, we must diligently and prayerfully assess the "retreat ministry" needs of His people in North Carolina and allow Him to guide us toward the meeting of those needs.

**How to Help**

Monetary support goes without saying, for there is no such thing as a free lunch; the bills have to be paid. Of even more importance, though, is your Christian concern and prayer support, your personal good will and participation. Share with us specific needs as you see and understand them, tell us your ideas and goals, volunteer your time and efforts. Pray regularly for our Board and staff as we plan and work to make Camp Vandemere a credit to our church and our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**What will you do for Christ in 1988?**

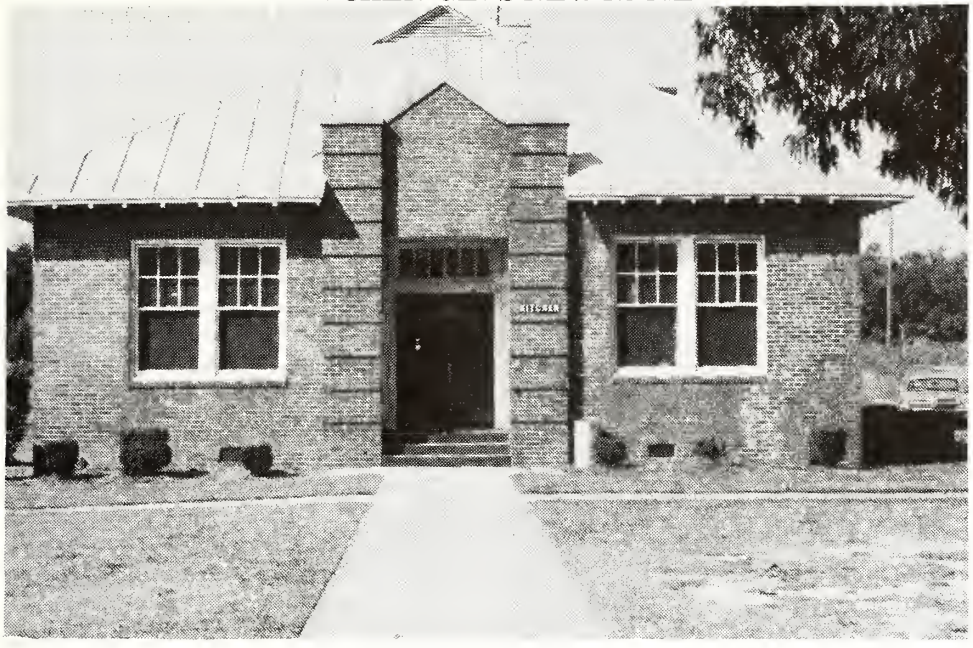
## THE REAL TEST OF REVIVAL

*by Harold Jones*

How do we determine if we are in revival? There are a variety of ways that people use to determine this. The list includes: good feelings, a love for the Word, a new interest in prayer, a change in one's Christian walk, and many more things too numerous to mention. All of these should accompany revival, but the real test of revival is demonstrated in concern for others. *If there is no outreach with the gospel, there is no* revival. True revival is not self serving, but is shown through increased giving, prayer and witness to reach the lost. Revival makes us keenly aware of our position in Jesus Christ, and quickens our desire for all people to know Him. We know and cannot escape the thought that without Christ they are lost for eternity, and our heart breaks for them.

My friends, I plead with you to seek God's face for personal revival. The world is in desperate need of the gospel of Jesus Christ, but only a revived church will reach them.

## KITCHEN GETS NEW NAME



The Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home voted at their meeting on November 12, 1987, to change the name of the building that served forty years as the kitchen and dining hall. The building is now "Heritage Hall."

Heritage Hall is the oldest building on the campus of the Children's Home still in use. During the past six months, a complete renovation on the inside of the building has taken place.

The children and staff of the Children' Homes invite you to visit our campus and see Heritage Hall for yourself.



Mrs. Sudie Mixon

## FIRST CHURCH, WILSON SENIOR CITIZENS VISIT HERITAGE HALL

The Senior Citizens of First Church, Wilson, arrived at Heritage Hall on November 10, 1987. They had invited the retirees that live on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home to join them for lunch.

Following devotions by Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, all enjoyed a very delightful lunch. The weather outside was cool and rainy, but the atmosphere on the inside was that of love and warmth.

Mrs. Sudie Mixon, a member of the Wilson Church Senior Citizens, was happy to be back on campus. Mrs. Mixon and her husband, Mr. Horace Mixon, an alumni of the Children's Home, moved on campus in January, 1949, when Mr. Mixon accepted the position of Farm Manager.



A special thank you goes to the Senior Citizens of the Wilson Church for visiting and thinking of us.





Friends of Children participants Mike and Susan Denton are holding the momento they received at the Friends of Children Appreciation Day held on Saturday, November 14, 1987, at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Mike and Susan are members of Winterville Church.

Also shown is Chris Paul, Preston Jones, Amy Shepard, Wayne Salter, and Lisa Sorenson. They are from the Arapahoe Church and are members of the Arapahoe Senior High Sunday School Class which is a participant in the Friends of Children program. These young people want to help other young people and by participating in this program, they are doing their part. Mrs. Jane Santimaw is the teacher of the class and the Rev. Doug Skinner is their pastor.

Friends of Children have contributed more than $30,000 to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home this year. If you are interested in making a difference in the life of a child, contact the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at (919) 235-2161, or P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557, for full details.

## FRIENDS OF CHILDREN APPRECIATION DAY

On Saturday, November 14, 1987, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home celebrated its second annual Friends of Children Appreciation Day.

The honored guests enjoyed a delicious dinner served by the teenagers from the Preparation for Independent Living Program. After the meal, we were given details about the ministry of the Children's Home and very encouraging information about the plans for 1988.

It was amazing how the "old kitchen" had changed in one year. It is absolutely beautiful with a lowered ceiling, carpet and the warmth of flower arrangements, flickering candles and God's people.

We were able to enjoy the campus because of the beautiful weather with which God blessed us. As we walked around the campus and saw the cottages where these children call home, the church, and recreation center, we could feel love in the atmosphere.

Being a participant in the Friends of Children program is a rewarding experience for me. I would like to thank all the children and staff for setting aside a special day in appreciation. But the biggest reward is not what I receive, but to know that I can be a part of making a difference in the life of a child.

This article was written by a Friends of Children participant.

## OUR WEEKEND AT NAGS HEAD

*by Mike Ginn*

It all started October 26, 1987, when Mr. and Mrs. Patterson came back on duty and we had our weekly Central Cottage meeting. After the issues discussed at the meeting were settled, the question was brought up, "How would you kids like to spend this weekend at Nags Head?" Of course, there was no disapproval in the cottage of leaving on Thursday, October 29, and returning Sunday, November 1.

With great anticipation we all were ready to leave on Thursday afternoon. Upon arrival at the cottage, provided by Mr. Jim Perry, we were all amazed about how nice, spacious and clean the cottage was. The kitchen was very

well stocked with snacks and drinks, donated by North Banks Rotary Club. After a quick snack, we all settled down for the night knowing tomorrow would be a busy day.

Upon awaking, Friday, October 30, we all went for a walk on the beach. At about 9 a.m., we all set out for a long day of fun at the beach. The first thing we did was go and have breakfast at a local restaurant, compliments of Carolina Telephone Company. After breakfast, we went to Nags Head Fishing Pier, where we all participated in a fishing tournament. Michael won by catching the largest fish.

Upon leaving the pier, we ate lunch, provided by the Outer Banks Kiwanis Club. After eating, we went to Gil Tussel's Gift Shop, where he gave everybody some gifts of hermit crabs, shells, necklaces and bracelets.

After leaving the shop, we went and toured Jockey's Ridge, then we went to the North Carolina Aquarium in Manteo. After leaving the Aquarium, we went back to the cottage for a fish fry, provided by Carolina Telephone Company.

After everyone got up Saturday we toured some historical sites of the Outer Banks, the Wright Brothers Memorial and the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. After eating lunch, prepared by Tracy and Sandra McNeil, we went riding on the sand dunes of Ocracoke Island with Charles Warren. We went back to the cottage to prepare for dinner at Kelly's Restaurant, provided by Mike Kelly. After a very nice meal, we went back to the cottage and played on the beach until bedtime.

Upon awaking Sunday morning, we went to eat breakfast, compliments of the Outer Banks Kiwanis Club. After we ate, we thanked everyone for their hospitality and generosity and headed back to the Children's Home.

This was a very memorable experience for everyone who went, and I am sure all who went will never forget it.

Mike lives in Central Cottage and is a member in the Preparation for Independent Living Program at the Children's Home.

## ASPEN GROVE VISITS THE CHILDREN'S HOME



No, the boys are not fighting. They are singing "Father Abraham."



Thirty-four members of Aspen Grove Church arrived at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Sunday, November 15, 1987, around 3 p.m. They brought with them a "picnic" which looked like a Homecoming meal when they put all of the food on the table.

After we enjoyed the meal, most of our visitors toured the campus and saw firsthand where our children live, work and play.

At 6 p.m., we met in Memorial Chapel. The Aspen Grove Church held their Evening Worship Service and invited our children and staff to worship with them.

After enjoying music by the Aspen Grove Choir, the congregation joined in singing many choruses. The favorite was "Father Abraham." The Rev. Ed Thornton brought a very inspiring message about decisions that young people have to make. He challenged everyone to "choose to live for God."

We were sad when time came for those from Aspen Grove Church to leave. We wish to thank them for coming and sharing their afternoon with us and for all that they do for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

We invite your church to hold its Sunday Evening Worship Service in Memorial Chapel on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

## FOUNDERS DAY AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19).

This was the verse that came to mind for Dr. Robert W. Moye in addressing the Founders Day Convocation at Mount Olive College on November 24.

The occasion commemorated the 36th anniversary of the Free Will Baptist-sponsored college, and the Great Commission is the inspiration upon which Mount Olive College was founded.

A former student and Business Manager of the College, Dr. Moye is the son of the late Rev. James Clayton Moye, a Free Will Baptist minister of Snow Hill, and the late Ethel Brooks Moye, for whom the College's Moye Library is named.

Dr. Moye spoke of the quality of Christian higher education Mount Olive College has offered to so many people of all ages, but added, "Its most significant contribution in God's Kingdom has been in the development of disciples for Jesus Christ, not only for those entering the ministry, but for many others who have entered into secular positions after receiving a basis for Christian living while attending Mount Olive College."

Dr. Moye continued his own education at UNC-Chapel Hill and has been a dentist in Raleigh since graduation, but he credits a caring and committed faculty and staff at Mount Olive College for their role in the development of his Christian discipleship.

The phenomenal growth of the institution is "bordering on the miraculous," according to Dr. Moye. He pointed to the College's new four-year accredited status as a culmination of many years of planning and effectively carrying out those plans to reach this goal.

It was a day to look back with pride upon Mount Olive College's history and accomplishments. But, according to Dr. Moye, it was also a time to direct our attention to the future . . . and to ask God's continued blessing upon the College as it serves those whom God sends here.




Dr. Robert W. Moye

Special guests at Founders Day included six of the Moye children and members of their families: Ruth M. Taylor, Jimmie M. Leggett and Marguerite M. Wilson, all of Greenville; Mary Ida M. Albritton of Snow Hill; J. C. Moye Jr. and Robert W. Moye of Raleigh.

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY DINNERS TOP $250,000

Miraculous progress has been made in the gift support Mount Olive College has received through the 17 annual dinners sponsored by Original Free Will Baptists over the past 25 years.

The first dinners in 1963 raised slightly more than $52,000. This year gifts totaled $250,056, an increase of almost 500 percent. Attendance at the 1987 dinners exceeded 3,800.

The Bridge Builders Program, initiated in 1984, again proved successful. "We increased our number of Bridge Builders this year by 135, from 672 to 807, which is a 17 percent increase," said Jean F. Ackiss, director of Church Support. Bridge Builders are donors who make unrestricted gifts of $100 or more through the dinners.

The idea of gift support dinners for Mount Olive College originated at a luncheon with James B. Hunt of Lucama, an avid supporter of the College. Gifts through the dinners alone have exceeded $2.6 million for the College over the past 25 years.

The gifts have assisted the College in the development of a new 115-acre campus and in making the transition from a two-year to a four-year college. The dinners have also helped to provide annual tuition grants of $1,500 for Free Will Baptist students.

Mount Olive College is deeply indebted to North Carolina Free Will Baptists for their love and support for the past 25 years, and to Jean F. Ackiss, director of support dinners since 1978.

### SUMMARY OF 1987 DINNERS

| COUNTY | COUNTY CHAIRMAN | BRIDGE BUILDERS | GIFTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| Beaufort | William D. Gurkin | 34 | $ 8,588 |
| Carteret | David Ward | 27 | 11,853 |
| Craven | Miss Marice DeBruhl | 51 | 15,062 |
| Duplin | William D. Thigpen | 46 | 11,113 |
| Edgecombe-Halifax | David Ricks | 22 | 7,002 |
| Greene | Randy Beamon | 51 | 19,230 |
| Johnston-Wake | Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hinnant | 83 | 33,117 |
| Jones | Mrs. Mildred Jenkins | 8 | 2,922 |
| Lenoir | Stanley Jenkins | 39 | 10,996 |
| Nash | Lester Duncan | 15 | 5,736 |
| Onslow-New Hanover Brunswick | Ronnie Parker | 12 | 3,580 |
| Pamlico | Reginald Caroon | 19 | 12,397 |
| Pitt | Tim Tyndall | 104 | 23,706 |
| Sampson-Harnett Cumberland | C. Felton Godwin | 36 | 11,984 |
| Washington-Tyrrell Martin-Pasquotank | David Cahoon | 26 | 6,308 |
| Wayne | Mrs. Tempie Jones | 129 | 39,444 |
| Wilson | James B. Hunt | 105 | 27,018 |
| | TOTAL | 807 | $250,056 |

## SPRING SEMESTER ABOUT TO BEGIN

There's still time to register for Spring Semester classes at Mount Olive College.

The new term begins Monday, January 4, at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, with registration beginning for on-campus day classes Tuesday, January 5. Registration for on-campus evening division classes will be held January 11-14.

For more information about the regular schedule and evening programs, contact Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919-658-2502).

## MOC APPOINTS NEW PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR

The appointment of Mrs. Kathy Bateman as director of Public Information at Mount Olive College is announced by James E. Williams, vice president of College Affairs. Mrs. Bateman fills the vacancy that was created by the resignation of Patti O'Donoghue.

Mrs. Bateman is a graduate of Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Georgia, with a B.F.A. in communications. She has extensive experience in the print and broadcast media. "We feel very fortunate to have Kathy Bateman in this position, and look forward to a continuation of the important role that this office plays in the mission of Mount Olive College," said Williams.

## EVERYBODY'S BUSY

*by Harold Jones*

If there is one word that characterizes the church today, it is *BUSY*. Everybody's *busy* working for the Lord. There are meetings, fellowship suppers, parties, committee assignments, building programs, teaching, visiting sick, social actions and the list goes on and on. *Everybody's busy; so busy in fact that we no longer have time to reach the lost with the gospel.* We engage in *safe work.* By *safe work* I mean non-confrontative work. Work that keeps us busy, but away from lost people, and thus, it keeps them out of our minds. This is truly a sad day for the church. It is so busy that it no longer has time to do what Jesus told us to do, when He said, "Go *ye* into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

The overwhelming majority of our energy and wealth is spent on self-serving projects or *safe work.* Friends, it's time for us to look at our work and set our priorities in line with God's will for the church. We need to be busy doing what He wants done. *The world must be confronted with the gospel!*


Ribbon Cutting
and
Open House
for
North Carolina
State Convention
of
Original Free Will Baptist
Headquarters
Saturday, January 16
Ceremonies Begin at 11 a.m.
Lunch Available at
No Charge

# The Free Will Baptist Ministers' Program

Formerly Board of Superannuation

Post Office Box 2313
Kinston, North Carolina 28501

December 28, 1987

TO: ALL MINISTERS
RE: 1988 TAX SEMINAR

The Directors of the Free Will Baptist Ministers' Program are happy to announce that they will again sponsor the Annual Tax Planning Seminar for Ministers. As in the past this seminar will deal with tax planning strategies for the coming year along with changes that will affect you as a minister. Also, we will give ample time to answer questions concerning your 1987 return.

Our speaker this year will be a field agent with the Internal Revenue Service. You will have an opportunity to discuss any questions you may have as it relates to the ministry and the unique tax laws that govern the clergy.

The seminar will once again be held at the Holiday Inn of Kinston located at the intersection of highway 70 bypass and 258 south. The meeting is scheduled for January 21, 1988, and will begin at 10 a.m. A buffet luncheon will be served and it is included in the registration fee of $5.

If you plan on attending please complete the registration form below and return it along with your check to:

MINISTERS' PROGRAM
P.O. Box 2313
Kinston, N.C. 28501

We look forward to seeing you there!

---

Name_____Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please include your registration fee.



**Cahoon Family at MOC's Parents' Day**—Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cahoon Sr., and family visit Mount Olive College freshman, Cecil II, during the annual parents' day activities on November 7. From left to right are his parents Eda and Cecil Sr., his brother Larry, Patti Ferrara, and Cecil II. The family lives in Arapahoe, NC, and are members of Bridgeton Church (photo by Patti O'Donoghue).

## MINISTERS' WIDOW'S FUND NOTICE

When a participating minister dies, a new enrollment is started for the Ministers' Widow's Fund. On November 10, 1987, the Rev. Alton Mason, of Harker's Island, North Carolina, died and the proceeds of the Fund were sent to his widow, Mrs. Ruth Mason. Notices were mailed on December 5, 1987, and a new enrollment was begun. If you have not received your notice, please complete the application below and mail it to the address listed.

Each of our married ministers can and should participate in this Fund. Even if you have not enrolled before, you can do so now and receive partial benefits for the first year and full benefits as long as you remain current with the Fund.

We would like to encourage churches and auxiliaries to help their individual minister by participating on his behalf. This is an excellent way to help your pastor and his family. The cost of participation is $10 for each enrollment with a new enrollment beginning at the death of a participating minister.

To enroll complete the form and mail along with your check for $10 to:

**THE F.W.B. MINISTERS' PROGRAM**
**Ministers' Widow's Fund**
**Box 39**
**Ayden, NC 28513-0039**

### WIDOWS' FUND ENROLLMENT CARD

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Wife's Name _____

Conference _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please complete and return to the
FWB Ministers' Program
Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513



**WHAT:** Missions Conference
**WHERE:** Trent Free Will Baptist Church
**WHEN:** January 22-24
**TIME:** 7:30 P.M. Friday and Saturday
11:00 A.M. Sunday

**Features**—Special Music
Mission News and Information
Slides of Work in Philippines, Mexico, India and Austria Mission Message

**Participants**—Willem and Lydia van der Plas, Missionaries to the Philippines; Harold Jones, Director-Treasurer, Board of Foreign Missions

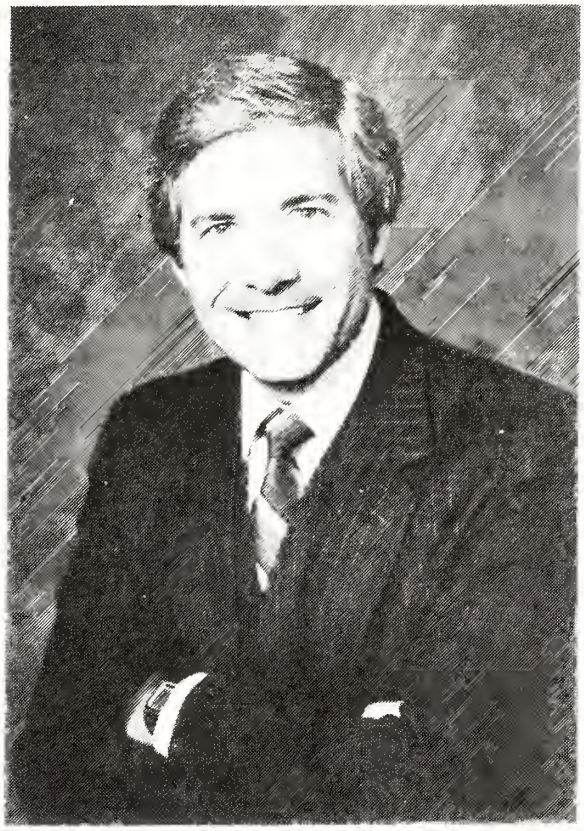
The pastor of Trent Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. D. T. Cleve, and the congregation invite all Eastern Conference churches to participate in the Missions Conference.

### NEEDED

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home needs two pianos, in good condition, in order for our children to continue taking piano lessons. If you are interested in donating a piano, contact the Free Will Baptist Children's Home by writing P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557, or by phoning (919) 235-2161.

**Feb. 26, 1988**

**Mark your calendar today!**



The Rev. Dick Eastman

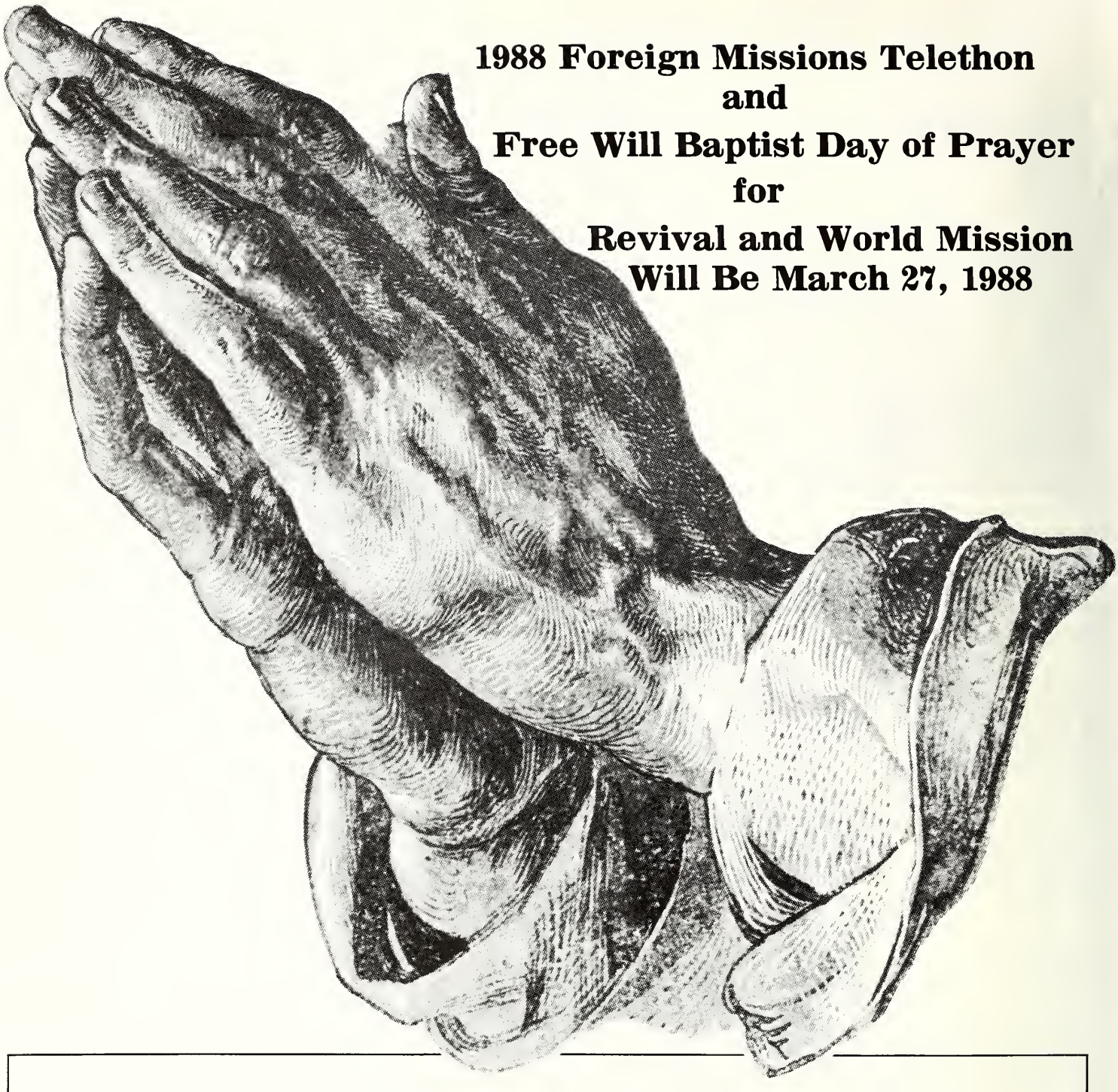
**1988 World Missions Conference**
**Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions**
**Conference Held on the Campus of Mount Olive College**
**Daytime Session—Rodgers Chapel 9:30-4:30**
**11 o'clock Session to Be Held in College Hall**
**Speaker: The Rev. Dick Eastman**

(Mr. Eastman Will Conduct a "Change the World School of Prayer")

Dick Eastman is President and Executive Director of "Change the World Ministries," a world evangelism and prayer mobilization ministry that has assisted over 100 denominations and evangelical missions organizations in prayer mobilization and evangelism activities in more than 120 countries.

Many of you are struggling with your prayer life and you desire a deeper spiritual walk with the Lord. Please don't miss this conference. It could well be the most important conference of your life. If you desire personal and church-wide revival, please set this day aside as unto the Lord and attend.

Dr. Charles Stanley, past president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia, says of the seminar, "This was one of the most helpful studies on prayer I have ever attended. I was blessed and challenged in my own personal prayer life. Please return!"



# 1988 Foreign Missions Telethon and Free Will Baptist Day of Prayer for Revival and World Mission Will Be March 27, 1988

The annual Foreign Missions Telethon is of vital importance to the financial health of the program. Last year churches and individuals gave a total of $62,000.06 through the Telethon. I challenge everyone who gave last year to match or exceed last year's gift this year. Our ministry has expanded over the past year and we need to hear from all of you. Please begin to pray daily for the Telethon and Day of Prayer. Ask the Lord to guide you in the contribution He would have you make this year.

Your call between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. will assure the continued progress of your Foreign Missions program. Call (919) 746-4963 or (919) 746-6128.



Melvin Jones, left, assistant steward of the North Carolina State Grange and master of Nahunta Grange, presents a plaque to Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., whose church, Pleasant Grove, won second place in the State Grange's Rural Church of the Year contest.

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, Pikeville, received second place in the state contest for Rural Church of the Year sponsored by the North Carolina State Grange. The award was presented at the annual convention of the State Grange held at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, October 22-25, 1987. The church received a plaque and a check for $150. Pleasant Grove Church was entered into the contest by the Nahunta Grange and is pastored by Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr.

A major accomplishment of the church during the past year is an addition to the front of the church, which included a new and larger vestibule, two restrooms, a sound room, an additional classroom, a handicap ramp, and a colonial porch on the front of the building. The sanctuary has been renovated with replacement and painting of walls and ceiling. New carpet and pews have been installed. Pulpit furniture has been refinished. A concrete walkway and shrubbery have been added to the front. A new steeple graces the top of the church. The church has purchased approximately an acre and a half of additional land. A chain link fence has been placed around a portion of the church property.

Church membership has grown during the past year to 302 members. Since the present pastor began serving the church two and one-half years ago, 68 new members have been added to the church roll.

FIRST CHURCH, KINSTON, will have a special musical program on Sunday, January 31. The New Life Singers, of Daniels Chapel Church, will perform at the 7 p.m. service.

The group has been singing together for fourteen years and has made six albums. They have appeared at numerous churches in North Carolina and have been featured several years on the program of the Christian Music Festival held annually at Eagles Nest.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this service.

THE EXAMINING BOARD OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE will meet at Saints Delight Church (Craven County), located two miles north of New Bern and Bridgeton on Saints Delight Church Road, on Monday, January 18, at 10 a.m.

All individuals having business with the Board should meet with them at that time.

THE CAPE FEAR UNION MEETING will convene with Faith Church on Saturday, January 23, 1988. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
- —Devotions, The Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez
- —Welcome, Host Church
- —Response, Charles Toler

10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
- —Recognition of Visitors
- —Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union Meeting
- —Appointment of Committees
- —Roll Call of Churches
- —Report of Denominational Enterprises
- —Miscellaneous Business

11:15—Hymn, Congregation
- —Special Music, Host Church
- —Offering and Offertory Prayer
- —Message, the Rev. Elmer Thompson

12:00—Report of Treasurer
- —Report of Committees
- —Unfinished Business
- —Benediction and Adjournment
- —Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Hubert Stanley
Secretary, Martha L. Parsons

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
PERIODICALS

DURHAM NC 27706

THE FIRST UNION OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE will meet with Little Rock Church, Lucama, on Saturday, January 15, at 9:30 a.m. The clerk, the Rev. James Joyner, encourages all member churches to atend with full delegation and fee.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

The Rev. Ed Taylor has retired and wishes to announce his new address. It is as follows: The Rev. Edward C. Taylor, 307 Shady Lane Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577. His phone number is (919) 934-9940.

**MINISTER AVAILABLE**

The Rev. C. L. Patrick wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral and evangelistic work beginning January, 1988. He may be contacted by writing to him at Route 1, Box A-22, Snow Hill, NC 28580; or by phoning, 747-8877.

**PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION**

(Continued from Page 13)

that all articles for publication should be in no later than thirty days in advance. For example, articles for publication in the March issue should be in the hands of the editor by February 1. (When the first is on Sunday, they should be in the hands of the editor on Monday.) It is most important that everyone observe this. Late copy delays the publication and causes problems on all fronts.

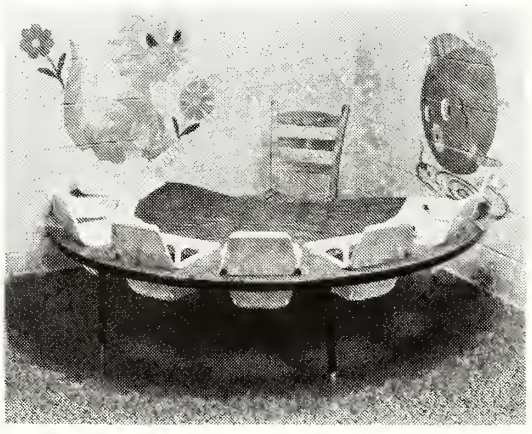
13. Remember that all items to be published should be submitted in typed form. Items should not be phoned in.

14. Churches and pastors wishing to announce their availability should note that this information is run as space permits. It should also be noted that there is absolutely no way anyone but the minister himself can relate his availability. (In the past, churches have tried to make such an announcement for their pastors. You can imagine the problems this causes!)

15. It should always be remembered that the editor makes the final decision as to whether or not something is deemed worthy of printing.

16. Send articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

TODDLER TABLES



FOR USE IN NURSERIES

ACCOMMODATES CHILDREN 5 MOS.—2 YEARS (35 LBS.)

Make check payable and return to: **Toddler Tables P.O. Box 26972 Raleigh, NC 27611**

_____ 8 seat tables • $325. _____
_____ 6 seat tables • $315. _____
_____ 4 seat tables • $305. _____

Include $100 deposit for each table with order. You will be billed for the balance of payment after table is shipped. Tables shipped within two weeks of order freight collect. Call-in orders welcome; phone 919/772-4765. Call for special discounts if three or more tables are ordered.

Name _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip _____
Ship To (if different from above):
Name _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip _____

Date _____ Phone _____ Signature _____

February, 1988

# The Free Will Baptist

## . . . The Servant of the Church

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DIVINITY SCHOOL LIBRARY

"And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

February, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 2

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 | Blue-Ribbon Day |
| 9 | Multiplying Our Strengths |
| 10 | A Tool for Strengthening Families |
| 12 | Learning Servanthood |
| 14 | The Christian Teacher |
| 16 | For Parents and Other Human Beings |
| 18 | Youth Focus |
| 20 | Children's Corner |
| 21 | Musical Notes |
| 22 | Ministry Focus |
| 23 | Ministries Update |
| 32 | News Briefs |

Edited and published monthly by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 2094-4000).

All materials for consideration in any issue must be in the hands of the editor thirty days prior to the publication date of that issue. Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, *The Free Will Baptist* P.O. Box 159, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0159.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.* The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.88; two years, $16.20; four years, $31.35 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours:** Ayden, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

# It Just Makes Good Sense!

According to the story, only one student made an "A" on the philosophy exam. To some, this stands as no surprise. "Who likes philosophy, anyway?" they reason. The real clincher comes in how that grade was earned.

The beloved philosophy professor was well known for his "deep" lectures, difficult reading assignments and classroom antics. It also did not take one long to learn that pop tests were pretty much a fact of life.

As the semester drew to a close and the students braced themselves for their final exam in this particular course, their anxiety turned to horror. Instead of being asked all the things they had anticipated being quizzed on, the instructor entered the room and merely wrote one word on the board: "Why?" The students prepared lengthy essays at a feverish pace—all but one, that is. One student took his time and still finished a long time before the rest. Ironically enough, this student was the only one to receive an "A." You see, when asked "Why?", he replied, "Why not?"

When expounding on why Original Free Will Baptists should have a Headquarters, State Convention Vice President Scott Sowers began his remarks by asking, "Why not?" He continued and explained that the Headquarters concept would not have been developed had there not been people who followed the biblical example of those of Nehemiah's day who had a mind to work and made it possible. And it took work—and a lot of it for our present Headquarters to reach the point where it is presently. Cooperation was needed between the various ministries; there had to exist a willingness to work together, a desire to recognize the deep roots and rich heritage which make Original Free Will Baptists the people they are.

When you get right down to it, having a Headquarters "just makes good sense!"

**LITANY OF DEDICATION**
**USED AT RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY**

**(Prepared by the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists)**

L: Our project committee has completed the work assigned to it by the Executive Committee and the Convention. I, therefore, as President of our Convention present to you this office and board room complex for the use of our denomination and ask you to join me in dedicating this complex to the work of building the Kingdom of God. To this end we also dedicate ourselves to Him to be His through the covenant of grace by Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P: We devote it to the proclamation of the gospel of God's grace for the conversion of sinners, and to the education of Christians in the knowledge of truth in all phases of the Christian life.**

L: May the organizational and administrative work and planning done through these offices and their personnel be accepted as prayer and praise to God. May God bless, with the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit the work of our ministries.

**P: May no discordant note of strife be heard within these walls, no unholy spirit of pride or worldliness find nourishment here.**

L: And may God graciously accept this offering of this Headquarters Complex to the glory of His name from Original Free Will Baptists, a part of the larger body of Christ.

**P: May many be born to God and others give themselves to the service of Christ and His church through the influence and work of our ministry programs.**

L: To the glory of God, the Father; to the honor of Jesus the Christ, the Son of God and our Saviour; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, source of life and light.

**P: We dedicate this Headquarters Complex.**

L: To the help of the needy; to the promotion of Christian brotherhood; to the extension of the Kingdom throughout the world.

**P: We dedicate this Headquarters Complex.**



The Rev. James Joyner, Lloyd Jones Jr., Wayne Harris, Marvin Baldree

# A BLUE-RIBBON DAY

*by the Rev. De Eakes*

Saturday, January 16, was genuinely a "blue-ribbon day" for the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. This date was the occasion for the official opening of our renovated and enlarged State Convention Office Complex. There was a ribbon cutting (a blue ribbon), a dedication service, a tour of the facilities and a free lunch enjoyed by all who attended. Approximately one hundred sixty were in attendance. Mayor and Mrs. Marvin "Bear" Baldree and Mr. Wayne Harris, representing Congressman Walter B. Jones Jr., were special guests.

Our official Headquarters has been located in Ayden since 1982, when the State Convention leased space from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation for use as a Headquarters facility. This was a very positive step in the right direction. This action provided Original Free Will Baptists with a central location for those ministries whose own facilities did not establish an office. In the fall of 1987, the Convention signed an extended lease for ten years, with an option to renew for an additional ten years. At present, five denominational ministry offices and our Convention's office are all located within the office complex. The ministry offices located here

are: Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Retirement Homes, Church Finance Association and the Ministers' Program. In the not-too-distant future, it is our prayer that we may see an Executive Secretary using the Convention's office! At present, our Treasurer and Vice President, as well as part-time secretarial help, use the Convention office as needed. Small subcommittees of the Convention's Executive Committee also utilize the Convention office.

Why was Ayden selected as the place for our Headquarters offices? There are several very sound reasons for this location. First, Ayden is very rich in history as related to Original Free Will Baptists. Our three oldest Original Free Will Baptists Churches, Grimsley, Little Creek and Gum Swamp, are located near Ayden. Ayden Seminary was established in 1897 and Eureka College operated from 1926-1932 (when fire destroyed the main building of Eureka College). Also, our denomination's oldest institution, the Free Will Baptist Press (established in 1873 and moved to Ayden in 1895), is located here. Another good reason is that when the Convention needed office space, the Free Will Baptist Press had the available space. Due to advances in printing technology "the Press" no longer needed the space originally needed for its operation. The Convention was able to procure office space and the Press was able to realize some income from the lease. From the beginning to the present, our Headquarters and the Free Will Baptist Press have enjoyed and are presently enjoying an excellent working relationship. As stated by the Rev. Scott Sowers, "The counties surrounding our Headquarters have the largest concentration of Original Free Will Baptists."

The renovated and enlarged Headquarters Complex includes six offices, a large and attractive Conference Room, an airy and pleasant lobby/reception area, a large work area for the ministries' use as well as much improved storage spaces, a small lounge area for ministry personnel, and a ladies and gentlemen's restroom. The restrooms, lounge, an additional office, Conference room and closet/storage space were added in this improvement project. Two offices were added in 1984. The improvement project included the addition of new carpet and tile throughout the Headquarters area., Sheetrock, chair railing, wainscoating, crown molding and base board were also added throughout the area. Four old doors were replaced by new doors. Some new furniture was added in the reception area and two chairs placed in the Convention office. The windows also received some much needed attention.

All woodwork was painted, a suspended ceiling was installed in the newly added areas and old acoustic tiles replaced with new tiles. Heating and air conditioning lines had to be moved and insulated. Some additional electrical work (moving old service and running some new lines) was necessary. The changes were quite extensive. Our subcommittee composed of Mr. Justin Kornegay, the Rev. J. B. Narron, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood and the Rev. Scott Sowers, chairman, in conjunction with our decorating committee consisting of Mrs. Ruth Taylor, Mrs. Sandra Jones and the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood did an excellent job. The result of their planning and work is a very beautiful, practical and functional Headquarters for our Convention!

The Conference Room is available for the use of any of our Boards, Committees or Auxiliaries of the Convention. Mrs. Sandra Jones, who does secretarial work for a couple of our ministry programs, also serves as receptionist for our Headquarters offices. She is the person responsible for keeping a calendar for the Conference Room. (Please check with her prior to planning the use of the Conference Room.)

We feel that a central location for our ministry offices and Headquarters enhances the *unity of our work* and encourages better *coordination and cooperation among our ministries.* It is *mutually advantageous for the Press* and for *our ministries to share the same location.*

If you were unable to attend the festivities on January 16, we encourage you to come by our Original Free Will Baptist Headquarters at your earliest convenience. You will find someone there from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come see "your" denominational Headquarters. Talk to various ministry heads and learn more about the outreach and ministry programs of your denomination. Not all of

(Turn the page)

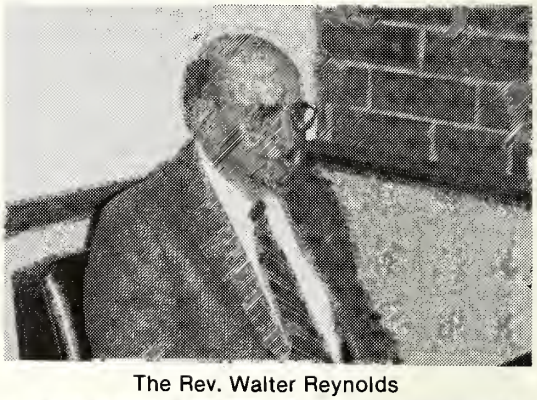



Jennifer Sutton, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Sutton and the granddaughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Walter J. Sutton.

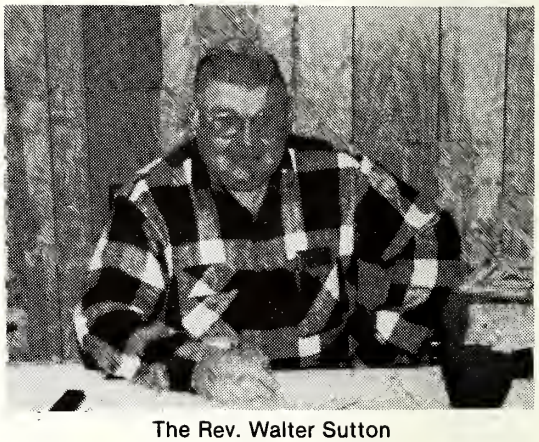




The Rev. Harold Jones



The Rev. Walter Reynolds



The Rev. Walter Sutton

our ministries have full-time directors and those that are full-time are often out on the field. If you wish to see a specific person, it would be a good idea to set up a time with him prior to going.

Many thanks are in order to our project committee and decorating committee, both of which have been previously named. The ministry directors whose offices are located in the Headquarters and our receptionist deserve much thanks for their patience, cooperation and "hands on" help they have given to the project. Our main contractor, Mr. Jesse Brady, worked with us making changes as work progressed and taking extra care to do us an excellent job. Pitt Tile Company did not charge labor on the tile installation. Our director of Foreign Missions and his wife donated a new microwave to our lounge. Our Home Missions Board was the first to make a gift to the project. Other ministries either have already or are planning to make contributions to the project. We thank the Church Finance Association for extending the Convention a short-term loan so that we could finish paying our contractors upon the completion of their work. The management and staff of the Free Will Baptist Press have been very cooperative during the entire project.

Two men from Smith's New Home Church, Mr. Robert Lee Smith and Mr. Clarence Smith, donated pigs for our meal: Mr. Sam Hobgood, owner-operator of Bonnie's Cafe, Farmville, contributed slaw, plates, knives, forkes, cups, napkins and ice. Pete and Bruce Jones donated the cornbread.

Following is a list of contributors to our Headquarters improvement project. This is a partial list. Another list will be printed in May or June. By that time we hope that sufficient funds will have been received to complete payment on the loan from







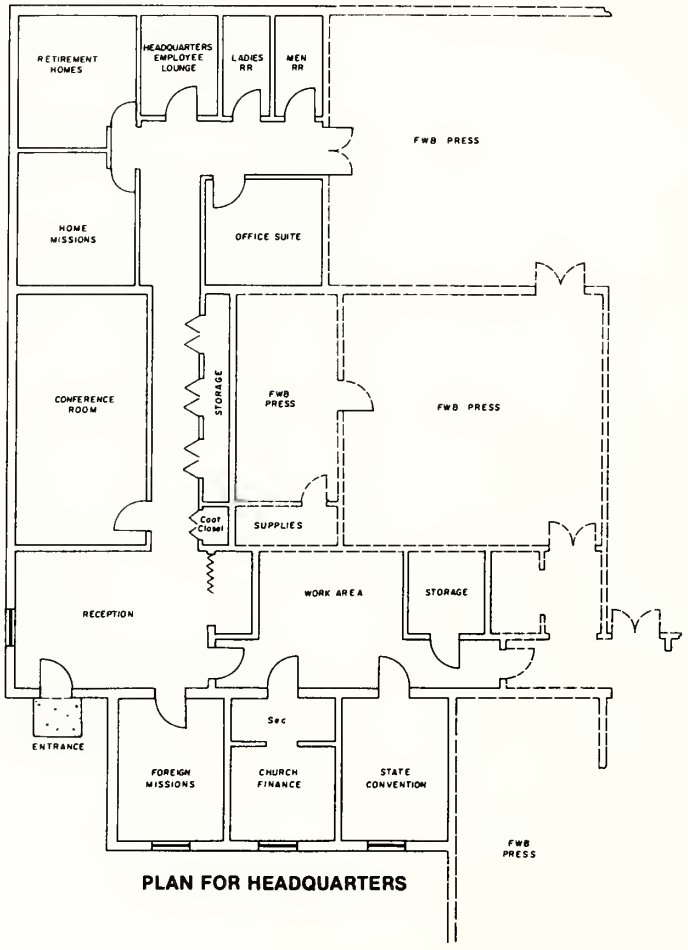




Church Finance. This list is through January 16, the date of the dedication service. If your church, auxiliary, Sunday School, Sunday School Class, youth group, men's group or individuals would like to make a contribution, please mail your contributions to:

The Rev. J. B. Narron, *Treasurer*
Original Free Will Baptist Headquarters
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039

We encourage each of our churches to send a donation of $100, if possible, to the project. If your church cannot make a $100 contribution, any amount *will be acknowledged* and *greatly appreciated.* A *permanent list of donors will be displayed in the Headquarters after payment on the project is complete.* Visit your Headquarters! *Pray for* and *support the work of your entire denomination* as together we seek to *strengthen* and *extend God's Kingdom* on *earth!*




**PLAN FOR HEADQUARTERS**

**CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED ON HEADQUARTERS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Smith's New Home Church (E)
Western Conference
Home Missions Board
Eastern Conference
Watson's Grove Church (W)
First Church, Durham (W)
Harold and Sandra Jones
Riverside Church (CF)
Hugo Church (C)
St. Mary's Church (W)
First Church, Rocky Mount (C)
Hopewell Church (CF)
Sherron Acres Church (W)
Rose of Sharon Church (C)
Shady Grove Church (CF)
Shiloh Church (A)
First Church, Tarboro (C)
Cape Fear Conference
Juniper Chapel Church (E)
Union Chapel Church (A)
Union Chapel Church (W)
Albemarle Union Meeting
Winterville Church (C)
Trinity Church (A)
East Rockingham Church (P)
Bethel Church (CF)
Sandy Plain Church (E)
Marlboro Church (C)
Lanwood Chapel (CF)
Free Union Church (C)
Oak Grove Church (PD)
Deep Run Church (E)
Beulaville Church (E)
Little Rock Church (W)
Central Conference
Daly's Chapel Church (E)
Albemarle Conference
Hickory Chapel Church (A)

# MULTIPLYING OUR STRENGTHS

*by De W. Eakes*

On December 8-9, a historic meeting took place on the campus of Cragmont Assembly at Black Mountain, NC. The event was a joint meeting between the General Baptists, headquarters at Poplar Bluff, Missouri; the Churches of God, headquarters at Findlay, Ohio; and our Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, headquarters at Aydeń, North Carolina.

There were four representatives present from the General Baptists, two from the Churches of God and six from our Convention. Our Convention, cooperating with Cragmont Assembly, hosted the two-day meeting.

The meeting was designed for exchange of information, sharing of ideas, and exploring ways in which our three denominations can complement each other as well as helping to form better fraternal relationships. (Lest someone become misinformed or misdirected, please understand our purposes are in the areas of continuing fraternal relations and cooperating in ministry—there is no intention whatsoever for merger of the three denominations either in the near or distant future.)

There was a wealth of information shared among our three groups. A genuine spirit of "Koinonia" (rich, spiritual fellowship) was experienced by all participants. No one sought to "impress" the others with their accomplishments and no one sought to "dominate" the discussions or presentations.

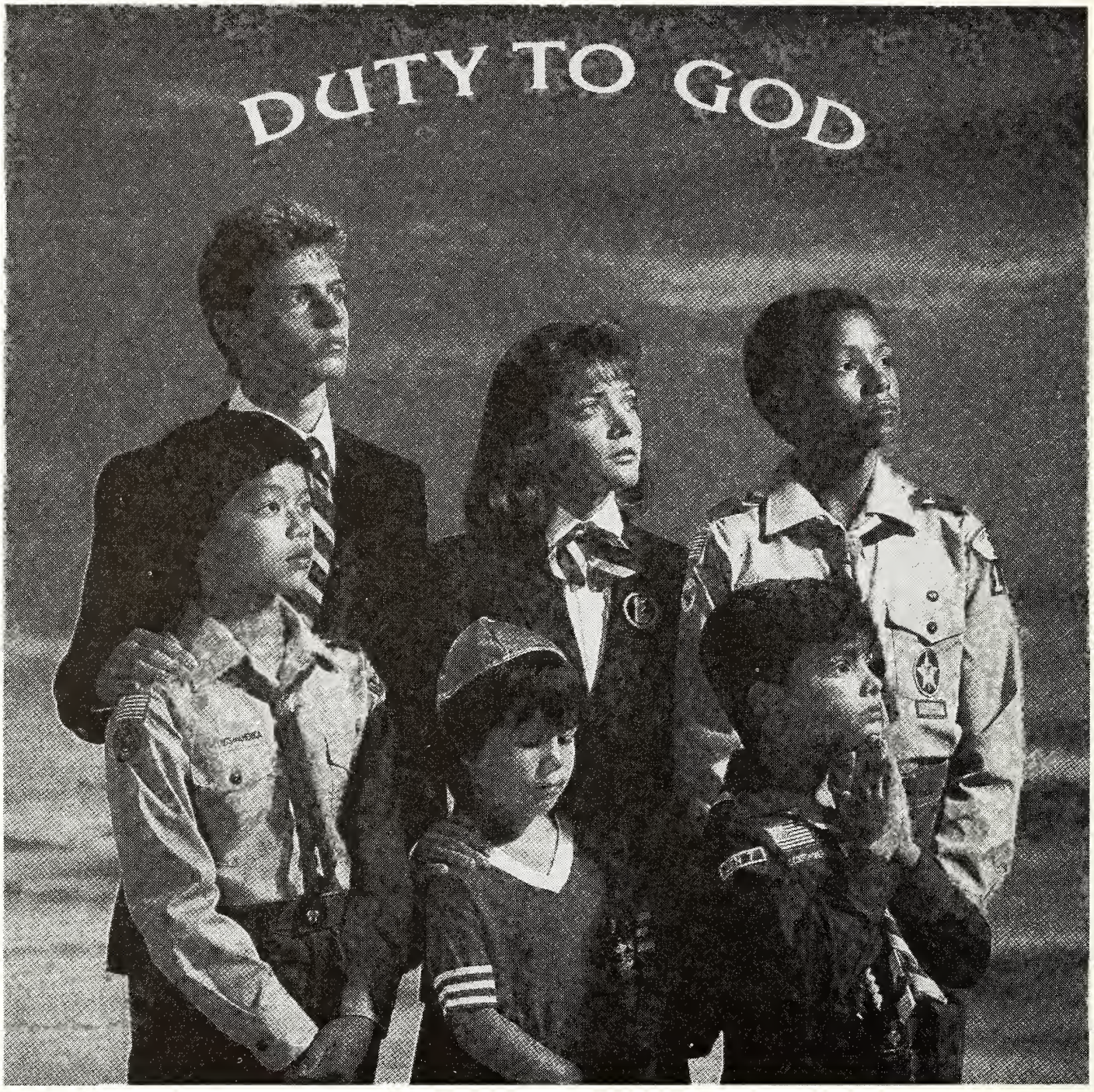
As you are very much aware we are already cooperating with our General Baptist brethren through our Home Missions Board. The Rev. Bob Harber's support is shared equally between us and the General Baptists. In 1986, the Churches of God sent several truckloads of hay to some of our Free Will Baptist farmers whose crops were hard-hit by drought. Many of you will remember that it was only with the help of our General Baptist brothers that we were able to begin our work in the Philippines. Also, the General Baptist Ministers have their annual Ministers' Retreat at Cragmont Assembly in May of each year.



There were many areas of cooperation and sharing discussed. Two of our men have been graduated from Oakland City College (General Baptist). Now Oakland City College has a Graduate School of Theology and our Churches of God brethren have a seminary program. Both groups were very sincere and enthusiastic about any of our people enrolling in their graduate programs following completion of college. They assured us of placing those preparing for the ministry or clergy or other religious professions in places of work that are appropriate. Through our various ministry programs we hope to share with our churches in the future some ideas through seminars in the areas of stewardship and discipleship.

There was a solid agreement among us that our three denominations will continue our present exchange of fraternal delegates at our Conventions. We appointed a sub-committee consisting of one person from each of our three groups to continue to explore new avenues of cooperation between our groups. We anticipate some very good things coming from the work of this committee.

It was a real joy for us to share ideas and strengthen relationships with our brethren from two other denominations sharing similar Arminian theological roots. There is a very strong doctrinal similiarity and observance of the ordinances of the gospel. All three groups expressed joy and satisfaction with the conference and were excited about possible ways in which we may be able to cooperate in the future.




# A TOOL FOR STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

*by R. Chip Turner*

Providing ministries to strengthen families is nothing new for most local churches. Yet, such emphases have never been more timely since—

- Traditional, biblical values for families face their greatest challenges to date.
- Few individuals escape the impact of divorce, whether involving friends or their own extended families.
- More and more children have one-parent or blended families to add to their childhood experiences.
- Families in which both parents work outside the home have spawned new situations such as latchkey children.

Imagine how wonderful it would be if there were a resource freely available to the local church for helping to strengthen families. Further, imagine if this



resource included quality, family-oriented programs in harmony with traditional values. Imagine, too, that through this resource a reverence for God and love of country would be taught as important to a fully-developed life. Finally, imagine if this resource could be fully-incorporated into a church's family, youth and children's ministries in such a way as to assure church ownership.

There is good news! This resource does exist in the Boy Scouts of America. And, since the local church owns its scout unit(s), scouting can be fully incorporated into ongoing ministries to members and prospective members. Thus, scouting becomes an extension of current outreach ministries to families, youth and children.

All facets of scouting, from Tiger Cubs and Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts and Explorers, share a commitment to strengthening families. This is reflected in literature, structure and activities. However, Tiger Cub (first grade) and Cub Scout (second through fifth grades) programs are particularly good examples of this resource to churches, for several reasons.

First, children of Tiger/Cub Scout age are at a most impressionable time for instilling lifelong values. Also, families are frequently experiencing stress. Scouting can help.

Second, structure for Tiger Cub and Cub Scout activities is very family-oriented. In Tiger Cubs, a parent is actually co-registered in the program with his or her son. Family involvement is suggested regularly for cubbing activities. Furthermore, parents are called upon to work with children in completion of advancement requirements. (This results in a sense of achievement for the son and an enhanced family relationship as parent and child spend time together.)

Third, excellent program resources support the family emphasis in scouting. Scores of publications outline family forums, family camping, family fiestas and so on.

Specialty pieces abound, too. For instance, *Prepared for Today* helps latchkey children develop skills necessary for staying safely at home alone. (Producing this piece does not imply that the Boy Scouts of America approves of leaving children at home alone.) Another specialty item, *Drugs, a Deadly Game,* provides help for parents and children in avoiding the clutches of drug abuse.

Designers of all program resources are nationally-recognized experts in their fields.

Fourth, excellent facilities are available for family-oriented outdoor activities. That's almost like a church having its own fully-staffed camp, but without the expense!

Fifth, well-trained professionals and volunteer leaders from the local Scout Council are available to help church leaders maximize their scout unit's effectiveness. In essence, the church has additional staff at its disposal to strengthen family, youth and children's ministries.

Sixth, if a boy chooses to work on his religious emblem ("God and Me" for Tigers and younger Cubs or "God and Family" for older Cubs), he will find the studies to be family-oriented as well.

The boy's pastor is also involved in completion of the emblem work. Many ministers find this counseling time another excellent way to positively impact church families (and unchurched families drawn to the church's scout unit).

After Tiger Cubs and Cub Scouts, boys and their families can still be strengthened through the church's scouting ministry. Each level of scouting builds upon foundations laid in the earlier program.

Could it be that your church would benefit by using this readily-available resource for strengthening families and reaching people? The answer is just a telephone call away. Contact your local office of the Boy Scouts of America for details.

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For more information on the God and Country Religious Emblems Program available to Scouts of all ages, write to the Commission for Church and Youth Agency Relationships, Box 6900, St. Louis, MO 63123.

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Scouting Commission is composed of the following individuals: Jack Everette, R. P. Harris, Leon Grubbs and Rose Raper. The Commission stands ready to assist you in your scouting endeavors. The Rev. Carlton Lucas can also provide help. His address is 6305 Williamson Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730.



# AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL

*by Mrs. Peggy Bailey*

Last night I saw something indescribably beautiful. Perhaps not in the way we are accustomed to seeing a beautiful object or person. But I saw a concept in human nature that was in itself so lovely that it brought tears to my eyes.

For there, sitting on the front pew of a small country church, was a group of men with a mission. They were the deacons assigned to serve the Lord's Supper at the evening worship service.

Why did I see beauty there? For many reasons. These men range in age from the early 70s downward to 30 or so. Their ages span nearly three quarters of a century, yet they were joined in harmony in a service handed down for hundreds, yea almost two thousand, years.

These men have assumed the duties as well as the joys of serving a country church congregation. They take these duties seriously. Many times when others are comfortably waiting until the last minute to put in an appearance at various services these few are busily taking care of things such as preparing the elements for communion, carrying towels, water and containers for the feet-washing portion of this service, making safe snow or rain-slicked steps, checking bathrooms, thermostats, and handling all the other unforeseen problems and hidden things that need attention.

The Rose of Sharon Church deacons made up a beautiful scene as I watched from a pew in the back. They had moved silently to their place, were seated and waited expectantly for instructions from the pastor as the communion service progressed. Each sat quietly, lost in his own world of meditation.

First, I noticed that Mr. Marvin Cowan was absent. Strange, I observed. Even though I knew he was not doing well physically, I still felt a jolt when I noted his absence. For during a lifetime of almost fourscore years, he has never, never missed taking his place with the other deacons at communion. Mr. Marvin has served our church as deacon since the 1930s. How strange that during the past 12 months he has had to yield to the demands of age and has relinquished some of the privileges of serving this congregation.

Next, I saw Lester Terry in his usual place. Separated just a bit from the others, since he also

leads the evening song service. He has served as a deacon for many years. There have been sabbaticals when he and some of the other men have rotated off the board for two years, but each is reinstated as time permits.

And now, tonight, Lester is in his place, even though the past year has not been too kind to him either. His problem with dimming eyes, swimming head, aching back, and other ailments have made it more difficult for him to get the same pleasure he once did from serving. Yet, he refuses to allow the evil one to squash his talents. You can count on him to help get the services going.

The next four men sitting on that pew each have a story to tell, and is doing so by his very presence.

There was Jack Roberson, son of one of the prominent leaders of Rose of Sharon who has gone to be with the Lord. "Mr. Tommy," as we fondly remember Jack's father, left a living legacy at the church. He served in many areas for many years, teaching Sunday School for 35 in addition to other responsibilities. "Mr. Tommy's" influence is still felt by many people and as I looked around the pews I saw his son, grandchildren, in-laws, and great grandchild.

Tonight, his son Jack is preparing to fulfill his duties to the waiting people and my heart and mind are thrilled. "Mr. Tommy" would be so proud of his son and the others who are serving with him.

Next to Jack sat Earl Bailey. Earl is the son of another inactive deacon. "Little Jim" Bailey was a moving force in the church for over 50 years and up until illness took its toll on him. "Little Jim" helped fill the building with many family members, too. Many of these are actively working together, carrying on the tradition that their father believed in.

As I watched Earl, I remembered a letter that I had found tucked in a file of the church mail. The letter was from one of the oldest families in the church.

The writer was proclaiming the virtues of "Little Jim" and Mr. Martin. She was anxious that the congregation should know of the dedication and service of these two men who continued to come for visits and to administer to an elderly bedridden brother and sister in Christ. Since the couple had been unable to continue as a part of the congregation these two men continued to include them in their prayers and visits.

The years have passed. And just a short time later "Little Jim" is himself nearly a shut-in. Age has taken its toll and he is in need of constant care himself. Yet, in his own son the work of the church goes on. Earl has accepted various responsibilities of the church, among them the role of deacon, which his father had before him.

Our youngest deacon, Irvin Mizell, sat quietly on that front row. Just three days before he had watched as they lowered his dad into a cold, snow-surrounded grave. Giving his dad up was not easy. But the faith they shared as they worked together gave him strength. And now, the work must go on. There would be no gap in the service of the Lord.

Irvin was a namesake for his dad. More than that, he is a carbon copy of a kind and gentle man. If anyone had reason to abdicate his responsibility on this night it would have been Irvin. Yet apparently this thought never entered his mind. Certainly, his own precious father, a wonderful role model, would never let grief keep him from the service.

Even as the elder Jesse Irvin Mizell, inactive deacon, suffered the indignities of a fatal disease and kidney dialysis for over three years, he never gave in to the desire to stay away from the house of worship. That dedication was instilled in the younger Irvin. And, last night he honored his father by serving the last supper to the congregation. By doing this, he affirms his faith that his own father served a risen Lord, and that by dying he has been released from human bondage and is now at the right hand of Jesus.

As Irvin performed his duties, he magnified his relationship with his earthly father and reaffirms his own faith in the ongoing church of Jesus Christ.

Roger Forbes is our newest deacon. His presence also brought great joy to me. Roger has taken his own place in our church by faith in Jesus and by marriage. He willingly moved into our midst, taking in marriage one of the granddaughters of charter members of the Sunday School. He works with the Layman's League, Sunday School, and the deacon board. His is a special beauty in that he has established his own place in the Rose of Sharon Church congregation and the Kingdom of God.

Yes, last night I saw something beautiful. I saw the young and the old, the new and the used, the past and the present—all combined. I saw where fathers had passed the torch to sons, I saw sons who accepted that torch, and I saw individuals helping shoulder the load. Each was and is working with the other, fulfilling the great commission of the risen Saviour to continue His work on earth. What a beautiful picture these men presented to a waiting congregation. Yes, the work goes on . . . .

"Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged . . . And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:1-2, 6-7).



# THE SSG: START ONE FOR YOUR TEACHERS!

*by Bass Mitchell*

Sunday School teachers need constant support and ongoing training if they are to effectively carry out their ministry. There are many ways to provide these things. This article will share one way that I have used with good results.

**WHAT?**

It's an SSG. It stands for "Share and Study Group." A group of our teachers meets regularly to share and study together. It's a kind of teacher support group.

**WHO?**

It's primarily for teachers who are presently serving in the Sunday School. This includes assistant teachers. However, it could be opened up to any person who is interested in learning more about or preparing to become a teacher.

If you have a small Sunday School, one SSG may be all you need. But even then you may wish to have one for teachers of children, one for teachers of youth, and another for teachers of adults.

If you have a large Sunday School, you may need one for each department. It really depends upon the number of teachers you have in each department or age level.

**HOW MANY?**

It is crucial to the success of the SSG that it be a small group, that is, no more than 10 to 12 persons per SSG. The size of the group has great influence on the kind of intimacy and sharing you can have. In fact, I often break our 12 member SSG into 3 or 4 smaller groups to promote sharing. It's just easier to share and listen in a small group.

**WHEN?**

That can be a problem. Trying to set a time when all your teachers can be there is just about impossible. However, you should try. At least choose a time when most of them can be present most of the time.

Here's something else to take into consideration. If at all

possible, do not take up another night during the week for this. If your church is like most, you have something going on all the time. If you add another activity that's going to take another night, you're probably not going to be successful.

Here's what works for us. We have a regular Wednesday night prayer and Bible study time. While our regular members are attending it, we have our SSG. It lasts about forty-five minutes. This way we do not have to take up another night.

### WHAT DO YOU DO?

The purpose of the SSG is to provide a supportive group for teachers in which they can share their unique needs and grow together in their teaching knowledge and skills. The exact procedure you use and the content of each SSG is up to you and the group.

Here's what we do. We follow this basic outline for each SSG Meeting: Prayer Time, Sharing Time, Study Time, and Closure.

**Prayer Time.** We often begin with this. There's something about praying together that makes you feel closer together. If the SSG did nothing but pray, it would be well worth having.

I like to guide the prayers, that is, ask for specific things. For example, I ask them to think about one person in their class with a particular need and to share this with the group if they are at liberty to do so. After we have all shared, we pray for those persons.

You could also ask them to share some area in teaching in which they would like to grow or improve. Each person in the group keeps a list of these for the whole group and prays daily for each one.

**Sharing Time.** Often I begin this part of the meeting by asking them, "Well, how'd it go in class last Sunday?" This provides them with the opportunity to evaluate each session and to give some feedback about it. It also allows them to vent any frustrations from things that didn't go well, as well as sharing the positive things that happened.

Here's something you can do for the sharing time. You will want to allow some time for this each meeting. Get a piece of newsprint and tape it to the wall of the room in which you're meeting. At the top write something like this: "A concern (need, problem, etc.) I have as a Sunday School teacher is . . . ." Let them complete that sentence. You can use this in planning what to do during the study part of the meeting.

Below are some of the concerns our SSG raised the very first meeting:

**Pronouncing** difficult biblical words
**Time** management
**Getting** persons to prepare for the lesson
**Encouraging** them to be active participants
**Discipline**
**Overcoming** a feeling of inadequacy
**How** to lead persons to Christ
**Resources** for Bible study and lesson preparation

They listed enough subjects the first night for a good part of the whole year!

**Study Time.** Often this will be the time for indepth study and discussion on the needs and concerns they've shared. For example, I came across an article concerning how to pronounce difficult biblical words. I made copies of it, having received permission to do so, and gave one to each teacher. I asked them to read it and be prepared to discuss it during our study time in the next session.

Teachers, like all of us, do not always see their needs. You may very well see needs and weaknesses that they don't. Part of your responsibility in helping plan and lead the SSG is to determine the real needs and address them during the study time.

This part of the study time could also be used in a kind of group lesson preparation, especially if the teachers are using the same materials. They can review the upcoming lesson before the meeting and be prepared to discuss it and explore creative ways to teach it. In fact, you can devote the study time to presenting a particular teaching method and then let them use that method in preparing the upcoming lesson.

**Closure.** This is a very important part of the SSG session. It's the time to summarize and review, give assignments and reminders for the next meeting, and to send the teachers out renewed and encouraged. I may share a brief devotional or inspirational thought. Often we simply stand and hold hands in a circle and close with sentence prayers.

### HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

Begin with prayer. Seek God's will. Is this something God would have you start for your teachers?

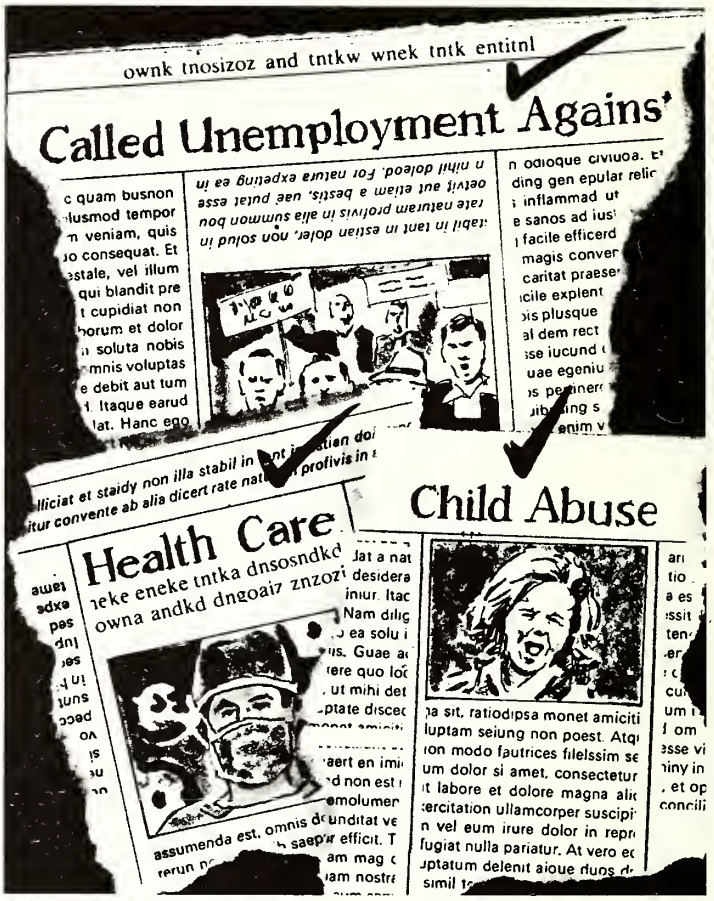
If you feel so led, then use the means available to begin explaining and promoting the idea. Use your bulletin, newsletter, make announcements, even make colorful posters.

I would further suggest that you write a personal letter to all your teachers. Explain what you're doing, why, when, where, and any other information you feel they need to know. Ask them to make this a matter of serious prayer and thought.

You may wish to do this on a trial basis. For example, tell them in the letter that you will have the SSG for the next month. After the last meeting the group will determine whether or not to continue. It may be that they wish to have it bi-weekly rather than weekly.

**The rewards of the SSG are tremendous!** You will see your teachers grow in new and wonderful ways. When they are growing, you can be sure their students are growing as well!

# WHAT IS HAPPENING TO FAMILIES




*by J. Clark Hensley*

Many significant trends have affected family life in the last two decades.

● *The technological revolution.*—First there was the development and refinement of electronic media. Television shapes and molds family ideals and philosophy and captures much of family time. Related to this development is the computer with its control of much human activity, displacement of persons, and the acceleration of most of life's processes. Coupled with sophistication of rocket power and space exploration, we have seen unbelievable spinoffs in health care and laser beam techniques that have enhanced and prolonged life.

● *An era of violence.*—We have lived in the aftermath of World War II with its tragic effects upon the family, and the Korean war and the Vietnam holocaust were brought into our living rooms. Children and youth have been desensitized to violence. They are taught that problems are solved by force. The strong control the weak.

The racial violence that erupted in the sixties came as a result of a hundred years of frustration and injustice and was a natural sequence to the violence of war. Spouse abuse and child abuse have been on the increase, along with fear and crime. Families now crowd behind barricades of locked doors and security devices, whereas two or three decades ago, except in the larger cities, no one thought of locking a door. The lifestyle of violence has brought with it an increase in drug traffic, drug abuse, and alcoholism, exacting a heavy toll on families.

● *From economic stability to creeping inflation.*—As a nation, we have moved from rural to urban-suburban, with emphasis upon consumerism. Credit expansion and installment buying have brought more automobiles, air conditioners, washers, dryers, disposals, dishwashers, swimming pools, shopping centers, highway systems, and mobility than ever before. About 15 percent of families move each year, and the two-paycheck family is sometimes necessary to keep up with rising costs of education and increasing burdens of taxation.

Government, as well as individuals, has gone on a binge of deficit spending. High labor costs in the U.S. have created an unbalanced spiral. Thousands of families are suffering from unemployment from foreign countries. The cost of health care, the failure to establish early a trust fund for old age, and many other factors have forced thousands into the poverty pockets.

● *The upsurge of civil religion.*

—There has been a resurgence of authoritarianism and a climate of "democratic totalitarianism." This type of patriotism says, "My country—right or wrong," instead of the total original concept, "When right, support her in the right; when wrong, correct her toward the right." This mind-set has deceived thousands to follow the pied piper of civil religion. This false religion has been abetted by a number of new cults that are detrimental to healthy family life.

● *Other social changes* affecting Baptist family life include the following: more permissiveness in sexual relationships following the playboy philosophy of hedonism; epidemic abuse of drugs and alcohol by all ages, especially youth and young adults; more freedom for women; Baptists moving up to middle class on the economic ladder, with more leisure time and more choices in the use of it; changes in concept for care of aged; relaxation of laws concerning Sabbath observance and use of alcohol; changes in divorce laws; and more single parent families. By 1990 more than half of children under eighteen will at one time live in a one-parent home.

What are some of the most significant influences these years have had on the family?

**Family Concept Has Changed**

Forty years ago we spoke of the traditional family—meaning husband, wife, and usually two or more children. Today we speak of the single parent family, meaning one spouse is left with the children; or the single unit family, referring to a grown child who has moved out to his or her own house or apartment. These units function as a family in terms of ministry from the unit as well as in terms of ministry from the church to the unit. The three generational family under one roof is reoccurring; and some families are experiencing the "refilled nest" as grown sons and daughters move back home, either to care for aging parents or for economic reasons.

Roles in families are interchanging. In many families there is no longer typical "women's work" or "men's work." With the two-paycheck family, responsibilities are agreed upon and delegated on the basis of both time and expertise. Men who love their wives no longer feel it demanding to their masculinity to do household chores, cooking, or child care.

However, there appears to be less leisure time for family togetherness as church or school and community activities crowd out family time. Entertainment, when the family is together, has replaced communication. Television and other mass media have deadened compassion toward the oppressed and needy. The racketeers in religion preach cheap grace that is supposed to result in miraculous cures, instant wealth, and promises of a good life—in exchange for money to the hucksters. Moral standards of children, youth, and adults are set more and more by peer groups. Madison Avenue advertising has fostered exaggerated wants and consumerism, resulting in changes in parental styles toward more indulgence and materialism.

**How to Minister to Families**

How can churches, individuals, and family members minister to family members in the next decade? What strategy will accomplish this purpose?

● *Develop an awareness of need.* Positive signs indicate pastors are becoming more aware of both growth needs and crisis needs in families. This awareness must be communicated to church members. Indeed, they should be asked, What are the priority needs of the church and community families? There are a number of ways this can be done.

A structure for family ministry in the church offers the best hope.

● *A caring church meets family needs.* The growth needs of the family life cycle can be met through curriculum materials. The study should include family enrichment opportunities through marriage enrichment, parent enrichment, and a ministry to special needs of single and senior adults.

Crisis needs of families can be met in part through a Deacon Family Ministry Plan. Pastor and deacons cooperating with a church committee can identify community resources available to meet crisis needs. Projects and special programs, conferences, or seminars may meet other needs.

The list could include seminars on grief, child and spouse abuse, time management, money management, handling conflict, building self-esteem, living creatively as a single parent, preparation for retirement, parents and grown sons and daughters, living creatively as a divorced or widowed single, and a host of others. At least eighty different crisis situations arise in the typical church family within a year.

A properly trained enrichment committee can develop a program for family ministry unique for their church that will strengthen families as well as meet crisis situations appropriately. The committee will relieve the overburdened pastor and use the special gifts of the body of Christ.

Changes that occur in society and in families should not overwhelm or defeat us. Instead, we can help build family life that will reflect that God intends for us to have enough "Heaven" in our homes to help prepare us for what Heaven will be like.

Used by permission of *Home Life*, January, 1987.

# CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH PRESENT TALENT

Approximately 400 young people, parents and sponsors gathered at Elm Grove Church, located near Ayden, on Saturday evening, January 16, for the Central District Youth Fellowship Talent Competition.

The winners of the competition are as follows: **Cherubs,** Hickory Grove Church, Bethel; **AFC,** Chasity Heath, King's Cross Roads Church, near Fountain; **YFA,** King's Cross Roads Gospel Band, King's Cross Roads Church, near Fountain. These winners will represent the district at the State Youth Convention on May 13.

(More pictures will be printed in next month's issue.)



Hickory Grove Church Cherubs



Chasity Heath



King's Cross Road Gospel Band

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY, MAY 13**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5:00 | P.M. | Registration—College Hall |
| 6:00 | P.M. | Supper—New Campus |
| 5:00—6:00 | P.M. | Registration of Arts and Crafts —College Hall, Classroom B |
| 6:30 | P.M. | Practice for Talent Show—College Hall (Auditorium Open Only to Talent Show Participants, 6:30—7:45 p.m.) |

**SATURDAY, MAY 14**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:30 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 8:30 | A.M. | Registration at College Hall for Those Not Yet Registered |
| 9:00—10:00 | A.M. | Business Session—College Hall |
| 1:00 | P.M. | Registration for Those Not Yet Registered—College Hall |
| 1:30 | P.M. | Afternoon Business Session—College Hall |

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 10:00 | A.M. | Morning Worship—Rodgers Chapel |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Cost of meals provided by Mount Olive College Cafeteria will be $2, breakfast; and $3, lunch and supper.

Cost of lodging overnight will be $6 per person per night.

Guests must bring their own pillows, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook and pencil, and casual clothes for the weekend.

The Free Will Baptist Press and Mount Olive College bookstores will be open on Saturday.

Rooms will be assigned in order as registration forms are received (first received, first served).

Money for lodging should be sent with a $20 registration fee (per church) by May 1, 1988.

Meal tickets will be sold at College Hall at time of registration.

No refunds.

No candy, gum, etc. may be used in campaigning.

No skateboards, please!

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Church _____

Address _____

_____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at the Convention (at least one adult male and one adult female; and they must be supervised at all times!):

_____

Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight:

| | Total | x $6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Friday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Males (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| **Saturday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Males (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Registration fee (per church) | | | $20.00 |

Total amount enclosed _____

Total number of youth and adults eating meals provided by MOC cafeteria.

| | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|
| Breakfast | _____* | _____ | _____ |
| Lunch | _____ | _____ | _____* |
| Supper | _____ | _____ | _____* |

*No meals served at this time

Meal tickets sold at College Hall on Friday, 5:00 P.M.

Registration forms, along with lodging money and registration fee, should be sent to:

Wallie Hargrove
Route 3, Box 294
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-3534

# A TIME FOR LOVE

*by Lynette Sumerlin*

In February, our thoughts turn to love. We enjoy choosing special valentines to give to our friends and loved ones on Valentine's Day. Of course, the Bible does not mention valentines, but it certainly speaks of love. It tells us that God loves us so much that He was willing to send His only Son to die for us.

There is a special chapter in the Bible that is called the "love" chapter. It is the thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians. (When reading the verses containing "charity," we sometimes substitute the word "love.") Open your Bible and read this selection. Then play the Cross-Out Game. Cross out all the letters that appear four times. The remaining letters will spell out the three most important words in this chapter.

**D L F B S A G S I L M Z T N K H Z W**

**H B G O D M K P L S W E W N M G C H L**

**Z D A N K S R B N D I G W Z T K M B Y**

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## MUSICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

*by Jack and Julia Bircher*

How can the choir director or church music leader help the Sunday School teacher in the weekly lessons? Most teachers would like to have help in this important area. Music should enhance the entire church program.

Usually, the choir director has limited contact with all members of the church family, but through helping Sunday School teachers, there is some assistance spread to **all** Sunday School students, either directly or indirectly.

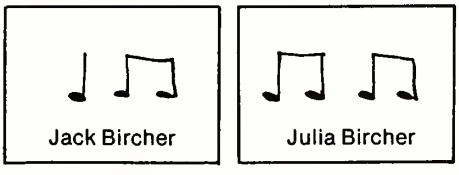
Sunday School teachers have various needs and usually fall into one of these categories:

1. One who is quite competent musically and plays an instrument, sings with confidence and includes music as an important part of each class activity.
2. One who doesn't play an instrument but who sings and enjoys music.
3. One who feels a complete lack of musical ability, who has given up trying to use music in class.

In order to help out each type of teacher, a workshop could be planned to deal with general and specific ideas, with which the classroom leaders could get "hands on" experiences and spark their inborn creativity.

A workshop is a "do" session, and that should be emphasized by the music director. Not just instruction but action should be the thrust of the workshop.

Simple, fun musical experiences should begin your session. Perhaps you could make up name tags with the rhythm of the name included. For example:




During the session many people could combine names and have a nice rhythm. Each rhythm could be spoken, clapped, snapped or tapped to form a good "ice-breaker" for loosening everyone up. Teachers of young children find this an easy way for names and new words to be learned and remembered.

A great tool to introduce to the workshop participants is the cassette tape player. So many resources open up to the teacher who uses one creatively and constantly. There is no limit to the recorded lessons on particular topics which are available. Songs which the teacher knows or has heard and could reinforce a lesson concept may be pre-recorded and used in class. Some songs have accompaniment tapes available and some others may be recorded by a pianist or guitarist. Teachers may want to record a song with voice only, to which the students may then add rhythm accompaniment. Because of the small size of some classes, a teacher may find it hard to sing a "round." With the round taped and played in class the entire effect may be appreciated by even a few.

The subject of rhythm instruments should be addressed during the music workshop. Simple "junk-type" instruments could be made in a few minutes and could give ideas not only for Sunday School projects but for Bible School as well. A small pill bottle or orange juice can filled with rice makes a nice shaker and with some decorating touches, could be very attractive additions to the classroom.

Poems could be created from the Sunday School lesson or unit topic and a melody added. By adding rhythm instruments on designated words, an interesting composition may be developed. In addition, a favorite hymn could be illustrated. To do this, write the words of a hymn which is rich in description (such as "For the Beauty of the Earth") and leave enough space below the words for pictures to be drawn. The students (or participants) could then sing their "song chart."

As in any workshop, a problem-solving time should be included. After singing, creating and doing artwork, many things may have surfaced from the teacher's experiences which should be dealt with and brainstormed for solutions.

On March 5, at the Free Will Baptist State Sunday School Convention, we will be leading a workshop entitled "Creative Teaching Through Music." We will be developing ideas and techniques of classroom music for teachers who fall into all of the above-mentioned categories.

This hands on session should be a good way for us to share our collective experiences with each other in striving for ways to further God's Kingdom through nurture in His Word. We hope to see you there!

## FUTURE GOALS FOR MOC

*W. Burkette Raper, President*

In the calendar of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, February and July are designated for an emphasis upon Christian education.

In recent years there has been an "educational awakening" among Free Will Baptists. This awakening grew out of the awareness that the future of our church would be largely determined by the kind of education—or lack of education—received by our ministers. Parents were also concerned that their children should have not only the opportunity of an education but an education that would contribute to their personal and spiritual development.

Out of this awareness and concern Mount Olive College was born, and in return the College itself has contributed to the educational awakening our Church has experienced. It is safe to say that the College has made a positive contribution to every phase of work being done today by Original Free Will Baptists. As a growth and service.

With the encouragement and support of Free Will Baptists, Mount Olive has made the transition from a two-year to an accredited four-year college. This transition, however, is not a plateau on which we can bask in our achievements. It is instead a launching pad for the future—a future with greater horizons than we have yet experienced.

### Goals for 2001

In the year 2001, Mount Olive College will observe its Golden Anniversary. A major study is now underway to define the goals to be reached by this date. Participants in this study will include the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, students, and alumni, along with representatives from the Free Will Baptist Church and friends of the College.

Included in the goals will be the curriculum and majors to be offered; considerations relative to admissions, scholarships and campus enrollment; extension programs; continuing education; new facilities and campus development; library, teaching and learning resources; programming and development of Eagles Nest as an educational, recreational, and resource center; and defining the services the College should provide its students, alumni, its sponsoring church and community. Over-arching these and other considerations will be decisions regarding the role of Mount Olive as a church-related liberal arts college located in eastern North Carolina.

Even as the study begins, certain goals press to the front and require immediate consideration.

### A First Priority

One of the first priorities is to strengthen and expand the educational services provided for ministers. Our commitment to this goal is evidenced by the appointment of a full-time director for this program effective with the 1988-89 academic year. To further support this work a denomination-wide "Board of Advisors" is being formed to assist the director in planning and carrying out this vital ministry.

### Library Development

Mount Olive College now has approximately 44,000 volumes toward its goal of 50,000 by 1989. When this goal is attained, the present library building will have reached its capacity. For this reason, our accrediting agency, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, has asked that we submit a plan for the expansion of our library facilities.

In preparation for this expansion, the College in 1987 took advantage of an offer by the United States Office of Education to prepay the existing board indebtedness on the library. The last bonds were scheduled to mature in 1998, but by paying them in advance the College removed all indebtedness against the library.

It should also be added that the College at the same time took advantage of a prepayment offer to retire the bonds on the Henderson Academic Building. A total of $36,100.65 was saved on the principal indebtedness of the library and Henderson Building. These two buildings, with a current value in excess of $2 million, are now debt-free.

### New-Buildings

1. **A Student Services Building** on the new campus. A major feature of this building will include food services. Architectural designing and a plan of finance **must** begin in 1988.

2. **A Fine Arts Center** for the department of music, art and drama is also urgently needed for program development and continued growth in enrollment in these areas.

3. **Additional Housing** will be required if the number of resident students is to be increased. Current housing, which will accommodate approximately 320 students, was filled in the fall of 1987. Especially important for the future will be apartments for adults and married students.

### Endowment

The long-range strength and quality of the College will depend in large measure upon the development of an endowment that will provide a stable source of income for scholarships, professorships, library resources, development and educational programs and enrichment of student life. The current endowment of $3.2 million is a beginning, but our goal is to double this amount by 1990. Future goals should be a minimum endowment of $10 million by 1995 and $20 million by the year 2001.



Mrs. Irene Patten, right, director of the Mount Olive College Singers, is shown assisting Stephanie Lancaster, a student at Mount Olive College, in planning her program of study. Stephanie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lancaster, of Pikeville, NC, is a member of the College Singers. The Lancasters are members of Stoney Creek Church (Wayne County).

## EARLY PLANNING: THE KEY TO MAXIMUM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN MEETING COLLEGE EXPENSES

by Kathy Bateman
Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

The enrollment cycle for Fall Semester 1988 is already in full swing at Mount Olive College with an array of programs designed to make the cost of higher education affordable. The College is committed to providing quality education and assisting students who will make a contribution to the state, the nation and the church.

During the 1986-87 academic year, 48 percent of Mount Olive College students qualified for financial assistance based on need, and more than $1.8 million in aid was awarded to deserving students. The key to receiving maximum assistance is to apply early. Students planning to attend Mount Olive College in the fall of 1988 should submit applications for financial aid no later than March 15, 1988, in order to be eligible for all available programs.

Two of the College's institutional programs should be of particular interest to Free Will Baptists. Mount Olive College offers to each qualified Free Will Baptist student an annual tuition grant of $1,500. To qualify for a Free Will Baptist Tuition Grant, a student must be a member of one of the churches which holds membership in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. All applicants must receive the recommendation of their churches and must enroll on a full-time basis, not earning less than 12 credit hours per semester.

Mount Olive College also provides assistance to ministerial students and spouses. Students preparing for the Christian ministry and their spouses may qualify for an annual grant by participating in a "Supervised Work Experience" designed to give them practical experience under an ordained minister or in other approved work. The College will seek to provide additional financial assistance, including loans and part-time employment, adequate to meet the cost of attendance of students who make satisfactory academic progress and who show evidence of a genuine commitment to the work of the Christian ministry.

Federal programs offered at MOC include the Pell or Basic Grant and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant based on exceptional need. Students may also qualify for the College Work Study Program or National Direct Student Loans may be obtained at 5 percent interest and repaid beginning six months after the borrower ceases to be at least a half-time student. All of these programs are contingent upon federal appropriations.

Students may qualify for one of several state programs through

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the MOC Financial Aid Office. North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grants are available to all full-time students attending a North Carolina independent college who are legal residents of the state. Eligibility for these Legislative Grants is automatic and not contingent on financial need, however, students still need to apply for these funds. The North Carolina Contractural Scholarship is awarded to residents of the state in need of financial assistance. Eligibility is determined by the College Financial Aid Office. North Carolina Student Incentive Grants are administered by the College Foundation, Inc., in Raleigh but may be applied for through the College Financial Aid Office.

The College Foundation, Inc., administers two other state programs of aid: the North Carolina Insured Student Loan, and Plus Loans which are made to parents of undergraduate students. Applications may be obtained by contacting the College Foundation, Inc., 1307 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27605.

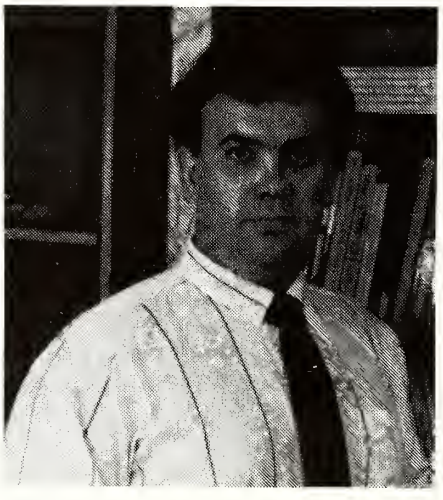
In addition to these state and federal programs, Mount Olive College offers academic and leadership scholarships to outstanding entering freshmen and transfer students. Beginning with the 1988-89 academic year, top level scholars will receive up to $3,000 annually or $12,000 over a four-year period. Leadership grants have been increased to up to $1,500 annually or $6,000 over four years. Transfer students having completed 60 semester hours at another college may also qualify for up to $3,000 or $6,000 over two years in the scholars program. Transfer leadership scholars may receive up to $1,500 or $3,000 over a two-year period.

The College also awards grants in athletics, music, art, and other areas.

To apply for all financial aid programs, students should complete the CSS Financial Aid Form by March 15, requesting that the results be sent to Mount Olive College and the Pell Grant Program. Processing normally takes four to six weeks. Forms submitted after March 15 will be processed and awards will be made based on the availability of funds.

Remember, the time to apply for financial aid for Fall Semester 1988 is now. The admissions and financial aid offices are very willing to assist Free Will Baptist students in obtaining their educational objectives. For further information contact Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365, telephone 658-2502.

## NEWLY ELECTED TRUSTEES AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Danny D. McPherson

Danny D. McPherson of Whiteville and W. L. Hennessee Jr., of Faison, were elected to new six-year terms on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees at the 1987 session of the Free Will Baptist State Convention.

McPherson, principal of Williams Township School (K-12) in Columbus County, holds baccalaureate and masters degrees from East Carolina University. He is a member of Beaverdam Church, where he teaches the Adult Sunday School Class, which has a membership of 250. He is also the teacher of Bible Study for League, which has an enrollment of 150. His wife is the former Diane Fowler; and they are the parents of two daughters, ages four and one.

Hennessee, who joined Cates Pickle Company in 1964, has been president since 1979. Both Hennessee and his firm are long-time supporters of Mount Olive College. Three of the Hennessee children have attended the College.

Re-elected to membership on the Board of Trustees were the Rev. C. Felton Godwin of Newton Grove, Lloyd W. Jones of Roper, and L. Maxton (Mack) Pierce of Pikeville.

Mount Olive College is governed by a thirty-member board elected by the North Carolina State Convention. Trustees serve for a period of six years with the terms of five members expiring annually.

## DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION FOR MINISTERS ANNOUNCED

*W. Burkette Raper, President*
Mount Olive College

The Rev. K. David Hines of Kinston has been chosen to fill the newly-created position of director of Education for Ministers at Mount Olive College. Hines, currently pastor of the First Church of Kinston, North Carolina, is scheduled to join the College faculty in August.

The purpose of this new office is to strengthen and broaden the educational services of the College to both ministers and students preparing for the ministry. One of our primary purposes is to serve the Free Will Baptist Church, and we know of no greater need among Original Free Will Baptists than helping those called to Christian service to equip themselves for "a life worthy of their calling."

With the development and accreditation of Mount Olive as a four-year college, a study is underway to identify long-range goals for the future. Among the

top priorities is the coordination and enrichment of all educational experiences related to church vocations.

A major feature of the new program for ministers will be a series of supervised work experiences. These experiences will be designed to assist students in financing their education, to contribute to their educational and spiritual growth, and to acquaint them with the various ministries sponsored by Original Free Will Baptists. The program will be open to both ministerial students and to ordained ministers who are already in pastorates or other employment.

In addition to his administrative duties, Mr. Hines will be a teaching member of the College faculty. His assignment will include studies in Evangelism and Church Growth.

**Advisory Board**

To assist the College in planning and carrying out its expanded program for ministers, the Board of Trustees has authorized the establishment of "a Board of Advisors on Education for Ministers." Each Conference Board of Ordination and the Board of each ministry (enterprise) related to the State Convention will be invited to have a standing representative on the Advisory Board. In addition, members at large may be appointed by the College Board of Trustees.

It is anticipated that the Advisory Board will meet on a regular schedule to evaluate the curriculum of the College for ministerial students, to assist in planning related work experiences, to help coordinate the ministerial program with the requirements for ordination, to advise in designing a program of continuing education for ministers, and to help integrate the work of the College with other agencies of the church.

**CONDENSED VITA OF K. DAVID HINES**
**Newly-Appointed Director of Education for Ministers at Mount Olive College**



**Personal**
Birth Date: November 15, 1958
Marital Status: Married

**Education**
1979 A.S. Degree, Mount Olive College.
1981 B.A. Degree in Religion and Philosophy, Atlantic Christian College
1984 M. Div. Degree, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.
(Presently enrolled in Doctor of Ministry Program at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.)

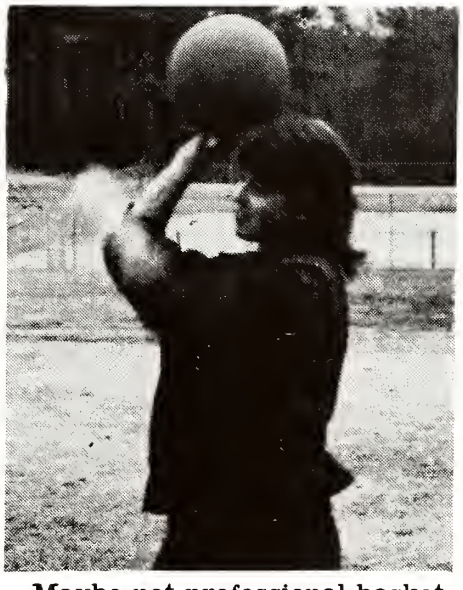
**Work Experience**

| | |
|---|---|
| Summer 1979 | Youth Minister, Sherron Acres Church, Durham, North Carolina. |
| December 1979—May 1984 | Pastor, New Sandy Hill Church, Bailey, North Carolina. |
| Fall 1985—Spring 1986 | Visiting Instructor, Department of Religion, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. |
| May 1984—Present | Pastor, First Church, Kinston, North Carolina. |

**Professional Organizations and Honors**
Clerk, Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, 1985-1987
Chaplain's Commission of Original Free Will Baptists (State Convention)
Member, Lenoir County Ministerial Association
Member, J. C. Griffin Brotherhood
Counselor, Cragmont Assembly, General Youth Conference
American Bible Society Award for Advanced Biblical Studies

**BASKETBALL PROS?**





Maybe not professional basketball players yet, but maybe one day. Mike and Melva are two of the best ball players on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. In fact, these two will take on just about any other twosome around.

They are not the only ball players on campus. On just about any afternoon you can find at least one game in progress.

Now that cold weather has arrived, coats and gloves are part of their basketball uniform. That makes even the perfect passes hard to catch.

(Turn the Page)

Children need to be active and they need to participate in sports. Our children are no different. Even on the coldest days you can see children outside, all bundled up, playing ball.

**THANK YOU FOR THE BEST CHRISTMAS EVER**



From all the children at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, to everyone who helped make our Christmas the best Christmas ever, we would like to say, "Thank you!" We appreciate your visits, the parties and presents that you shared with us. Christmas sponsors, we love you!



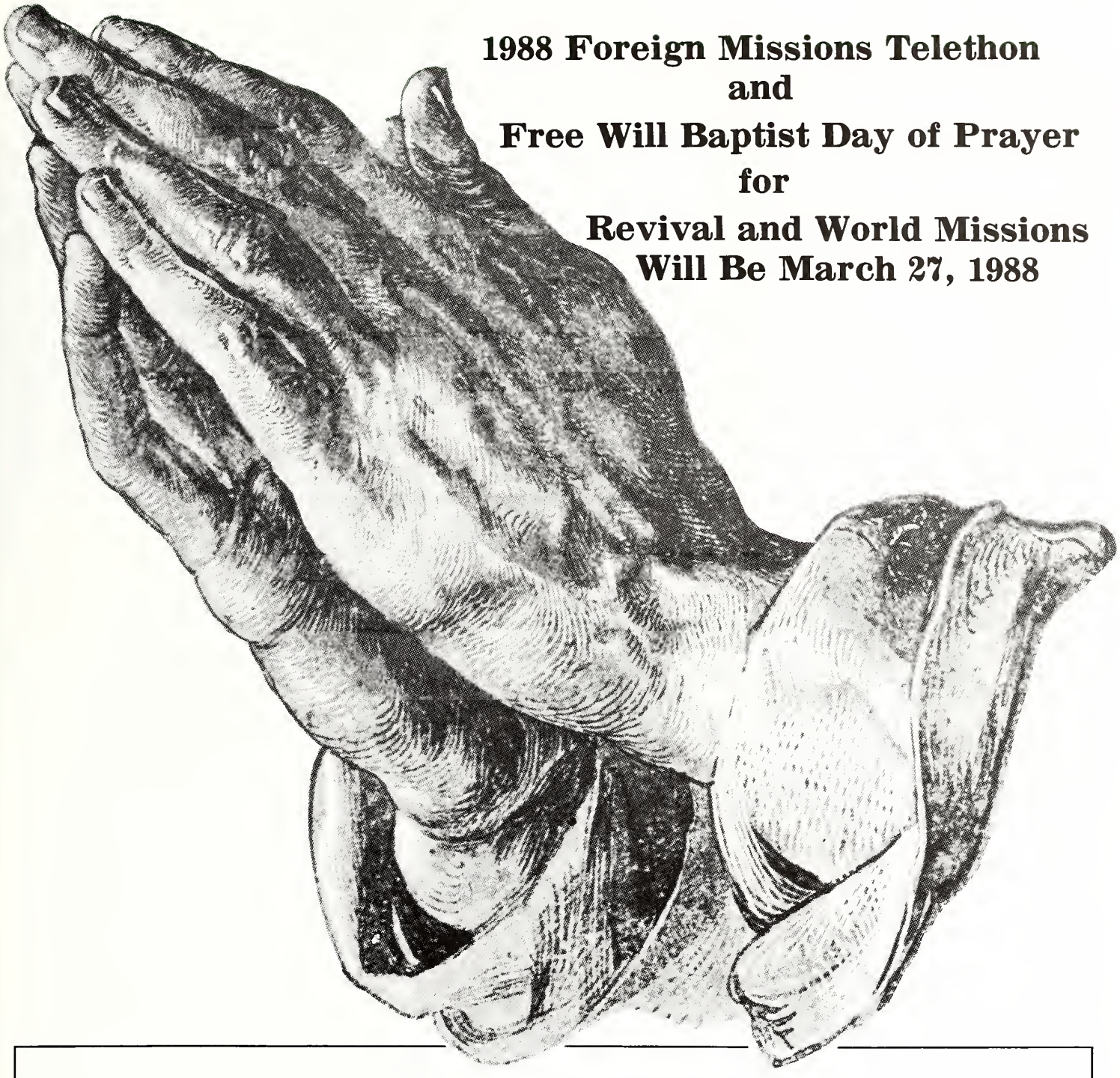
**IRARAY BAPTISMAL SERVICE**

*by Elmer Garcellano*

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). On September 26, 1987, the Iraray Free Will Baptist Outreach held a baptismal service at the seashore. We started with great singing by the congregation who participated in the service. Sister Espalia Ontong was the presider and Sister Arlita Peralta was the conductress for the service. I rendered a special song before Pastor Nerri Peralta brought God's message. There were four candidates baptized under the supervision of the general supervisor, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong.

The four candidates were the following: Mrs. Elsa Moreno, the wife of the barangay captain; Mrs. Presentation Lerazon, Miss Helen Temperatura and Nalie Tindog. These four persons were converted by the ministry of Sisters Arlita Peralta and Espalia Ontong. Now they are faithfully attending the church services and activities of the Iraray Free Will Baptist Outreach, Brooks Point, Palawan.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will give them more power to face their trials, temptations and persecutions, so that souls will continue to be saved at Brooks Point.



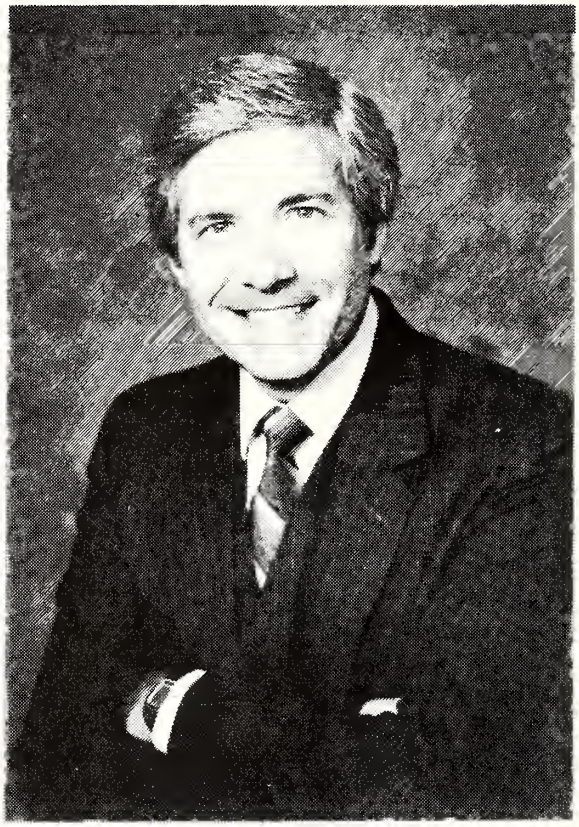
# 1988 Foreign Missions Telethon and Free Will Baptist Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions Will Be March 27, 1988

The annual Foreign Missions Telethon is of vital importance to the financial health of the program. Last year churches and individuals gave a total of $62,000.06 through the Telethon. I challenge everyone who gave last year to match or exceed last year's gift this year. Our ministry has expanded over the past year and we need to hear from all of you. Please begin to pray daily for the Telethon and Day of Prayer. Ask the Lord to guide you in the contribution He would have you make this year.

Your call between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. will assure the continued progress of your Foreign Missions program. Call (919) 746-4963 or (919) 746-6128.

**Feb. 26, 1988**

***Mark your calendar today!***



The Rev. Dick Eastman

**1988 World Missions Conference**
**Sponsored by the Board of Foreign Missions**
**Conference Held on the Campus of Mount Olive College**
**Daytime Session—Rodgers Chapel 9:30-4:30**
**11 o'clock Session to Be Held in College Hall**
**Speaker: The Rev. Dick Eastman**

(Mr. Eastman Will Conduct a "Change the World School of Prayer")

Dick Eastman is President and Executive Director of "Change the World Ministries," a world evangelism and prayer mobilization ministry that has assisted over 100 denominations and evangelical missions organizations in prayer mobilization and evangelism activities in more than 120 countries.

Many of you are struggling with your prayer life and you desire a deeper spiritual walk with the Lord. Please don't miss this conference. It could well be the most important conference of your life. If you desire personal and church-wide revival, please set this day aside as unto the Lord and attend.

Dr. Charles Stanley, past president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia, says of the seminar, "This was one of the most helpful studies on prayer I have ever attended. I was blessed and challenged in my own personal prayer life. Please return!"




# Original Free Will Baptists and Their Retirement Ministry—Tomorrow

*by Walter Sutton*

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc. is a denominational ministry. It was established by the North Carolina State Convention. The Convention elects a Board of Directors which is responsible for planning and administering a schedule of services and benefits for its retired citizens.

This paper is an attempt to tell in brief what the denomination through its Retirement Homes office will offer retired families in the near future.

Let the reader be assured, the Board of Directors has dreamed no dreams, beheld no visions, or heard a voice out of Heaven saying, "_____." Neither have we peered into a crystal ball seeking answers or methods. Our retirement ministry rests upon a foundation more sure than such trivial illusions. Together we have visualized the kind of retirement ministry which we believe the denomination would appreciate and support.

Our plans must have substance. Our deeds must be real. It is increasingly important that we weigh every decision because each is destined to affect the life and physical well-being of many retired Free Will Baptist people. Here at the Retirement Homes office we incorporate good ideas into plans that can be realized when translated into homes and apartments for retired families applying for residency. For the most part, the ideas and plans of which we speak were born in thought and discussion in past meetings of the Board of Directors.

During the years in which I have served as Chairman-Director of the Board, I have shared our ministry with its schedule of benefits and services with other retirement agencies. They have shared theirs with us. This exchange of ideas has been helpful, as we planned our ministry to have meaning and realness for our retired citizens. We have tried to take the best of the best of others and blend it with the best of the best that we have, to offer the "most of most" to our retired.

What we do in the years ahead in many ways will be governed by what we have done in the past and what we are doing today. We will continue to step forward without stepping back. We will strengthen our weaknesses. We will refine our plan of admissions. We will broaden our funding base. We will make our schedule of benefits available to more retired families.

We will continue to establish **community-based homes** and **apartments.** We will do this by purchase, lease or rent, whichever is the most feasible at the time. Retiring families in their home community or location of their choice is one of many features that makes our retirement ministry unique. Active Free Will Baptist people have responded favorably toward this plan of retirement. We are much encouraged because it has brought us additional and **much needed** gift support. More important is the fact, families who live in these homes are happy and thankful that the denomination has reached them with a helping hand that **cares.** Presently we have community-based homes in Middlesex, Ayden and Smithfield, NC. Our goal is to have at least one home in each conference belonging to the State Convention. We will continue to put forth our best effort to accomplish our goal.

We will continue to promote our **residents live in their own home plan.** This plan is an extention of our community-based home plan. Here we open our doors of admission a little wider. We carry our benefits and service to where our retired live—in their homes. Retirement Homes has the

(Turn the Page)

opportunity to share its schedule of benefits .with families who might not qualify otherwise. Retirement Homes is not involved with purchasing, leasing or renting. We make a cash payment each month to the family. They become responsible for all their living costs. The money we pay to these families is like money we spend in day-to-day costs to operate this ministry. What is the advantage then? A family in retirement has been helped. They have shared in the harvest of their active years. Here is a family who has been assured they have not been forgotten by their church and denomination. We have three families retired and receiving cash payments each month from our office. We expect to receive more as this year progresses. My friends, it is my and your mission to help people in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Saviour and Lord to all who believe. Every responsible Free Will Baptist person should be happy—they should rejoice in their soul when they hear that some retired person has been helped through their Retirement Homes ministry. I believe they do. Do you?

We will continue our **Placement Services.** There may be more limitation here for us than in our other plans. This venture was born out of an emergency in which Retirement Homes had to make some rather hasty decisions. We talked about this in previous meetings of the Board but we did not know when, where or for whom. It is likely that we will administer this plan only in times of emergency. It is safe for me to say here that whenever this kind of emergency comes, we will not turn a deaf ear. We will help. Here's how: Retirement Homes will negotiate an agreement between the applicant, applicant's family and the center to which the applicant will be admitted. Retirement Homes will assume some of the applicant's cost of stay at the center. Our cost will not vary much from the cash payments that we make to those who are retired in their own homes. It will not vary much from what it costs us to operate one of our own homes each month. The applicant will pay to Retirement Homes 30% of his retirement income each month. The balance will be picked up by the applicant's family. All payments are made to the Retirement Homes. Each month the Retirement Homes will issue one check to the center where the applicant had been admitted. This is an alternate for us here at the Retirement Homes. Right now we have nothing to offer retired individuals whose health has become so infirm that they need day-to-day supervision. Retirement centers provide this kind of care. Our placement services open to us a door of opportunity. We do have retired people who are in need of this type of care now. Our primary goal is to locate a **group care center** into which we could receive up to 24 and not less than 12 retired persons. When we think of the cost, it staggers us. Someday in the near future we will have a **group care center;** it will be equipped and staffed to administer our care and benefits to retired people of our denomination. Until that day comes we will follow our alternate course—our placement services. I think all who read these lines should pray with us and help us make this **group care center** a reality. We have some money that we have been saving for this purpose. It is not nearly enough to begin such a venture. The Retirement Homes ministry would appreciate your prayers and gifts for this much needed facility.

Sometime in the not too distant future Retirement Homes will publish quarterly a paper called, *The Retired Reporter.* It is not our intention to duplicate what is already available in this area of the denomination. This quarterly voice of your retirement ministry will carry items of interest for the retired citizens to which they can relate. We have no target date established when we will begin. We are doing some preparatory work toward building our mailing list. Retirement Homes would appreciate the cooperation of pastors and church clerks in supplying us with a list of the retired citizens of their church with their addresses. Our office will supply the necessary form upon request.

We are presently exploring the possibility of setting up one-day **Day Care Stands.** They would be temporary and mobile. We are thinking here of using Fellowship Halls of our local churches for these one-day events. We would have responsible people present to direct the activities of the day. Retired citizens from nearby churches would be invited and welcomed. We think maybe the local Ladies Auxiliary would prepare the lunch and offer refreshments. Our choices here are many and we believe it will work to the good of our retirement ministry and the people we want to help. We are anxious to get our retired pastors and laymen off the shelf and restore their sense of belonging and usefulness. They are still a source of strength to our denomination. Their hands hold a portion of the denomination's wealth. In their heads is the denomination's wisdom and in their heart is the God (Jehovah) whom we love and serve. No longer will the Retirement Homes ministry be content to let this part of our body be forgotten and left behind. We will help them, they will help us. We are where we are today because in their active years they worked, prayed, gave of their time and money, and believed that this day (our day) would come. It has come. Praise God! Let us rejoice and be glad. Next month we will look at Retirement Homes—Today.

# North Carolina State Sunday School Convention

## March 5, 1988

## Winterville Free Will Baptist Church

## Theme: The Creative Sunday School

| | |
|---|---|
| 8-8:45 a.m. | Registration |
| 8:45-9:45 a.m. | Business Section |
| 9:45-10:30 a.m. | Workshops: Session One |
| 10:30-10:45 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45-11:30 a.m. | Workshops: Session Two |
| 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | Workshops: Session Three |
| 12:15 p.m. Until | Teacher of the Year Presentation Banquet |

**Workshops for Teachers of Children**

Creative Teaching Through Music, Jack and Julia Bircher
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Christian Chapel Church, 3 miles east of Pink Hill, North Carolina, on Saturday, March 12, 1988. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the convention will begin at 10 a.m.

"Honesty Before All" (2 Corinthians 8:21) has been selected for this year's theme. The Rev. William van der Plas will bring the morning message, and a singspiration will be held after lunch.

Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills will be held, with winners receiving an expense-paid or one-half expense-paid trip to Cragmont this summer. Each church should enter one contestant in the Junior drill (ages 9-11) and one contestant in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15). Study materials were distributed at the convention last year.

Leagues are requested to send a generous contribution for our state project—Cragmont (debt retirement on main building)—at least $75, or what they can.

Any League not receiving a report blank by February 24 should write to Miss Leah McGlohon, P.O. Box 2, Winterville, NC 28590, for one.

### THANK YOU

Mrs. E. C. Morris wishes to thank her friends in the auxiliaries and churches in North Carolina and Georgia for their cards, gifts, love, and prayers during the Christmas season and throughout the year. Mrs. Morris lives at 1912 Taylor Street, Durham, North Carolina 27703.

## MORNING STAR RETREAT

### (Woman's Auxiliary Mini-Retreat)

**Dates**—April 8-10, 1988

**Times**—Begins at 8 p.m. Friday
Adjourns at 11 Sunday

**Where**—Cragmont Assembly
Black Mountain, NC

**Cost**—$30

Includes—2 nights (Friday and Saturday)
4 meals (3 meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday)

Registration—$10

Mail to—Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

The remaining $20 due upon arrival.

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and fun.

For information, please contact:

Co-Directors—Dola Dudley
510 5th Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810

**The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc.** has one apartment available for residency, located at 403 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina. This apartment has been completely redecorated. It has two nice bedrooms, a bathroom and a living-dining area. It will be equipped with new appliances. The apartment has a front and rear entrance, with plenty of tree shade and yard space. It is equipped with a new heating and cooling unit.

This apartment is available to any retired Free Will Baptist family or person who has been employed in the service of the denomination for ten years or more.

Interested persons may contact the Retirement Homes office for more information and an opportunity to view the apartment.

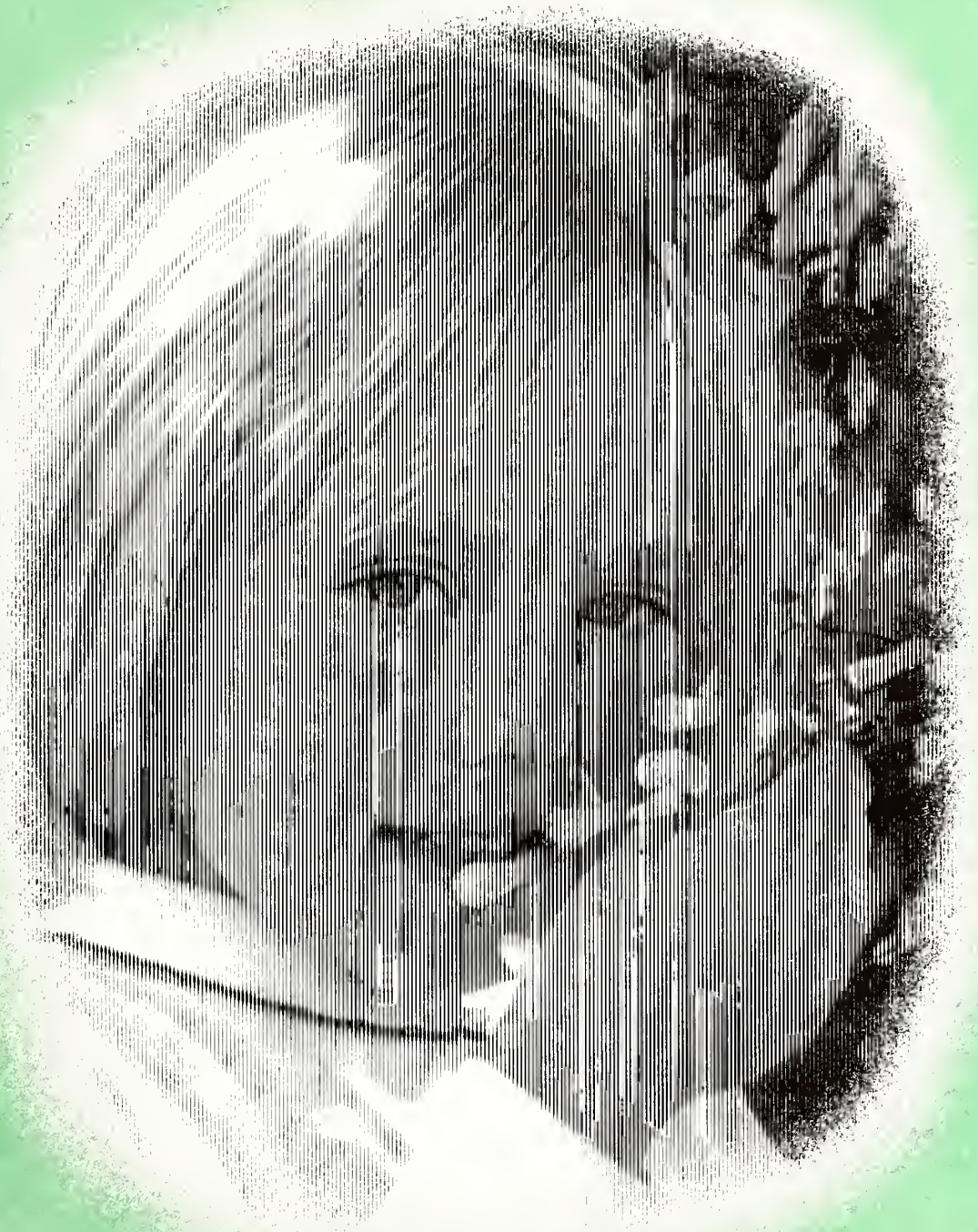
The Retirement Homes office is located within the Headquarters complex in the Free Will Baptist Press facility. Phone 746-4963.

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March 1988

# The Free Will Baptist

## . . . The Servant of the Church



The Free Will
# BAPTIST

March, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 3

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Guest Editorial |
| 4 | Christians: A Society of Fools? |
| 6 | Risky Living |
| 8 | Tribute to My Friend and Pastor: The Rev. Noah Brown |
| 10 | The Christian Teacher |
| 12 | Musical Notes |
| 13 | Learning Servanthood |
| 15 | Children's Corner |
| 16 | Ministries Update |
| 30 | News Briefs |

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.* The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.88; two years, $16.20; four years, $31.35 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

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# THE CHRISTIAN'S CHALLENGE

*by Ruth L. Warrick*

March is Foreign Missions Month as designated by the North Carolina Free Will Baptist State Convention. By the time you read this, the second group of Free Will Baptists will have accompanied our Foreign Missions Director-Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones and his wife, Sandra, to the Island of Palawan in the Philippines. They will get a very close-up view of what God is doing with our prayers and finances through His dedicated servants there.

Never a day passes that I am not reminded of our missionaries and native workers, especially those in the Philippines (of which I have so many mementos from my trip with the group last April). While there, we met twin boys, sons of the Palawan Bible College farm care-taker. They were four years old and were named Ronald and Reagan. I wrote to President Reagan of the incident and promptly received a reply from Anne Higgins, special assistant to the President and director of Correspondence. She said the President appreciated knowing how people in other parts of the world view our country and his presidency. I also received a Christmas card from the President and Mrs. Reagan, certainly by virtue of having sent them the letter concerning the boys on Palawan.

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16).

Every Christian has a responsibility to our Lord after we have received His saving grace to reach out to others with the gospel. We cannot all go to foreign fields, but we can all give and pray for those who are willing to go. We at home must also witness to those about us; lost people in America are just as condemned as those in other countries.

A gentleman told me recently of a discussion in his Sunday School class as to whether there would be "levels" or degrees in Heaven commensurate with services rendered to God here; he asked my opinion. I declared that according to my interpretation of the Scriptures, there would be no "cabins" in Gloryland, all will be mansions. There will be no envy or jealousy and all tears will be wiped from our eyes by God himself; therefore, everyone who makes it will be happy. Crowns that are given will be cast before the throne of a worthy Lord (see Revelation 4:10-11).



# CHRISTIANS: A SOCIETY OF FOOLS?

*by W. H. Starling*

The unbelieving world often characterizes those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as a "society of fools." Unbelievably, many Christians accept this as a proper method of identification.

Of fools and foolishness, the Apostle Paul said, ". . . the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world" (1 Corinthians 1:18-20).

Have you ever noticed that some people who say such things as, "I'm just a fool for Christ," seem determined to prove their statement?

Thirty-one years have passed since I was ordained to the gospel ministry, but I still remember some of the comments offered as encouragement after that service. More than once, a fellow minister told me, "Keep it simple *son,* and remember it is by the foolishness of preaching that people get saved." I remember thinking, "Was my sermon so bad or my delivery so complicated that these men are trying to give me some kind of message?" It had been a simple message, but not necessarily foolish. I had been a "nervous wreck" as I made my presentation, but I did not remember that I had done anything that should prompt such comments.

Even after all these years I still think about the events of that night and the many ways I might have "done it better." As time passed, I began to understand that those comments may not have been an indictment against me. Instead, what they said may have been a defense of themselves. Later, when I had participated in worship services where they pastored, my suspicions were confirmed. I came away saddened and embarrassed for them as well as myself.

From time to time, I am still embarrassed and angered when someone, because of lack of preparation, inordinate comments or general misbehavior at the pulpit, finds he must repeatedly justify himself by the misuse of Scripture (1 Corinthians 1:21). Usually, such people are unlearned in Scripture, undisciplined in heart and mind, and unwilling to change their behavior. By acting as a "fool" for Christ ( . . .?) the speaker makes the gospel message to sound foolish.

His attitude gives him license to remain ignorant, relieving him of any responsibility to learn the truth of God's divine Word and to apply it reverently and righteously. In turn, he fosters children who will innocently follow in his steps. (I also have had my turn at following.)

Paul comments, "Christ sent me . . . to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of

none effect" (1 Corinthians 1:17). One could suggest that the Apostle may have had in mind the extremes of Cephas and Apollos. It appears that one may have been terse and direct while the other waxed eloquent. Was Paul saying, "It is not the words used by the preacher of the Cross, but the content of his message that is truly important? He answers, "the preaching [the logos, the uttered word] of the cross is . . . the power of God . . ." (v. 18).

The "preaching of the cross," is the power of God to *you.* It is divine energy, vibrant and alive. It *is* life, eternal life. It is God's power of life imparted to you as you believe. There is nothing foolish about such preaching where Christians are concerned. Just the opposite is true.

God is intelligent, the source of all knowledge and He can neither be foolish nor can that which He provides be foolish. So what then is this "foolishness of preaching" sometimes bragged about by some Christians? Again the Apostle speaks, ". . . the preaching of the cross is *to them that perish* foolishness" (v. 18).

Is that true?

If so, how then can anyone be saved? Were we not *all* about to perish at one time? Yes, but because of God's grace provision offered by preaching of the Cross, "Whosoever *believeth* in Him (Jesus Christ) shall *not* perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). This same gospel message urges "Whosoever will, let him come" (Revelation 22:17).

Personally, I do not believe even one person must perish, but the person who will not believe *will* perish. The "wisdom of the wise . . ." the understanding of the prudent (learned) unbeliever is often a hindrance and sometimes a detriment to believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible illustrates this vividly in the lives of some of the Old Testament saints.

The message of Moses and Aaron appeared foolish and was ignored by the astrologers, soothsayers and other so called wise men of Egypt. But who was really foolish? The Red Sea holds the answer.

When Daniel was cast into the lion's den, when Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were thrown into the fiery furnace, they surely looked foolish and their message sounded foolish. But the truly foolish one went down on his hands and knees to eat grass as oxen.

". . . It pleased God by *the foolishness of preaching* to save them that believe." There is nothing here to suggest inordinate behavior was used to deliver the gospel message. Read in context, we can see that the preaching which was "*to them that perish* foolishness," is the same preaching by which "them that believe" are saved. How can the content of the preacher's message be both wisdom and foolishness?

It was for me. The preaching of the Cross which I had thought so foolish is the same preaching which made me wise unto salvation. The gospel truth you heard probably antagonized you as an unbeliever. It is that same truth which you now count as the "wisdom of God."

"The foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men" (v. 25). "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world [things that appear foolish to those who will not believe] to confound the wise [the wise ones of the world]; and God hath chosen the weak things of this world [things that appear to be weak to those who do not believe] to confound the things which are mighty [the unshakable thoughts, attitudes, and philosophies of the unbelieving world]. And the base things of the world, and things that are despised [ie., the Cross], hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are . . . " (vv. 27-28).

Preaching a living Christ who had already been crucified and buried, caused the Jewish unbeliever to stumble. Preaching a resurrected Christ who had truly been dead, was ridiculous to the scientifically minded Greeks. Nothing has changed. Humanity is still stumbling and rejecting the message of redemption.

There is nothing more foolish sounding to worldly minds than a God who gives life through His death. There is nothing more base or common than the everyday kind of people God has called to declare His gospel message. There is nothing more despised than the things man cannot explain out of his own human wisdom. There is nothing more rejected than things which appear to worldly society not to be—not to be true, not to be possible, not to be scientifically analyzed.

These are the things God uses "to bring to nought [nothing] things that are [things those who are perishing believe]" (v. 28). To the world they are foolishness, but let no *true Christian* glory in what *some* call "the foolishness of preaching."

The preaching of the Cross is only foolishness to the ignorant and unbelieving. To those who hear it, answer its call, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, it is the power of God (the energized eternal life) He will give to you.

Why did He decide to give salvation to humanity in this way?

"That no flesh should glory in His presence." He chose this method so that nothing of man's thoughts, ways, or doings could be said to be the source of His plan of salvation. Human wisdom cannot save and that is foolishness to those who will not believe.

Are Christians a society of fools? I should say not!

# RISKY LIVING

*by Frank Purvis*

In Luke 10:25-37, we read the familiar story of the Good Samaritan. This parable is one of the most popular among all of Jesus' teachings. As a matter of fact, many non-Christians have adopted its truth of helping your neighbor as one of the great humanitarian philosophies. The question that arises in my mind is whether Christians really know what it means to be a Good Samaritan? I propose in this article that to truly understand the parable there has to be a willingness to live at a risk.

Luke writes that a lawyer, one trained in the Mosaic Law, came to Jesus inquiring on how to inherit eternal life. Jesus referred him to repeat what the Law said. The answer: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."* Perhaps as far as Jesus was concerned, He had answered the question. But the lawyer pressed further and asked, "Who is my neighbor?" With that question, Jesus launched into the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho was infamous for its danger. It was 20 miles long, very narrow and full of unsuspecting turns. But the greatness of its danger was not its geographics, but the road bandits who were on the constant lookout for travellers who would be easy prey. People seldom in Jesus' day ever travelled this road alone. Because of the highwaymen, it was much safer to travel in groups. Dr. William Barclay in his commentary on this story wrote "that if this traveller fell into the hands of thieves, it was his own fault for travelling alone."

Often when Christians are faced with the question, "Who is my neighbor?", there can be a hesitancy in lending a helping hand. As a pastor, I often hear church people say, "Who can you trust?" or "How do you know the need is legitimate?" Perhaps a needy person, like in the parable, is in need because of a bad choice or mismanagement of resources. Often Christians will criticize those who are in need because of irresponsibility. I challenge that criticism on the grounds that it usually strokes the ego and it reinforces a commitment of doing nothing for others. I must ask the question: If someone comes to us hungry, does it really matter why they are hungry? Jesus taught in Matthew 25 about the parable of the sheep and the goats. One of the greatest distinguishing factors of the sheep was that the sheep fed the hungry, visited the sick, visited the imprisoned, gave drink to the thirsty, and clothed the naked. Jesus said, "If you did it to one of these my brothers of mine, even the least of these, you did it to me." Our job as Christians is to feed, clothe, visit, and leave the judging up to the Lord.

In this parable, Jesus painted a picture of the three that passed by the wounded traveller, showing us that He truly understood human nature as it relates to the response that different people may have when it comes to helping others. Jesus said that the first person to pass the wounded traveller was a priest, a religious man and a leader that was supposed to be God's representative to others. Yet in spite of the traveller's pain, the priest passed by. Why?

Perhaps the priest thought the wounded traveller was dead. If that were the case, then for the priest to touch a dead man would mean that he would be ceremonially unclean (Numbers 19:11) for seven days. That would mean that he could not perform certain duties in the temple. The priest was not certain that the traveller was dead but he was not willing to risk losing opportunities for someone in need.

Very quickly we would assess that we would not be like the priest in the parable. If we saw someone in need we would stop and help. But that is not the issue. Most people would help in time of need. Christians do not mind fixing a meal for someone at a time of death. If we see someone in automobile trouble we stop and help. While all those types of helping are important, none often requires long-term commitment. Christians need to be honest with their faith. There are some aspects of Christianity that we are more comfortable with than others. Christians don't mind teaching Sunday School, or cleaning the church yard, but when it comes to visiting nursing homes, prisons, or working with a poor family, volunteers are hard to be found.

Many would quote "the poor we will always have" as an excuse to not be involved. Helping our neighbor has to be more than a one time occasional event. I urge the reader to consider that there are many neighbors that surround us crying out with various needs. The Christian community cannot simply say to the world, "Come to church." Our responsibility as disciples is to take the gospel to the world *wherever* the need is. To be like the priest is to say we



serve the Lord and yet fail to serve our fellowman.

The second traveller to pass by the wounded man was the Levite. I will give the Levite the benefit of the doubt, at least he stopped by to inspect. But in the end he was just as noncommitted as the priest. Why didn't the Levite stop and help?

Often in Jesus' day, bandits were in the habit of leaving decoys playing the part of an injured man in hopes of drawing another traveller to investigate. While one would draw near to the supposed injured, the other bandits would leap out of hiding to attack the unexpected. To the Levite, safety was first. He was afraid to take a risk.

Many would have sympathy for the Levite. For we too live in a day when many "would-be needy" would take advantage of our generosity. Therefore, often out of fear, we do nothing. It is certainly true that in our world looks and situations can be deceiving. Our lending hands can be abused and misused. But to have the mentality of not helping others on these grounds is "throwing the baby out with the bath water." Many may come to the church door with a sad story that is totally false. But we must remember not everyone cries, "Wolf!" What Christians need is discernment. We must weigh out people and their circumstances as individuals. The sin of the Levite was that he viewed his fellowman according to his fear, not according to his faith.

The third traveller in the story was the Samaritan. Not only did he stop, but he attended the wounded man. He bandaged his wounds and placed him in living quarters at his own expense. There are two ingredients that the Samaritan possessed which the Christian community might take notice.

The Bible says that the Samaritan had compassion. Without compassion, all efforts to help others would be viewed only as duty or principle. Believers must possess a compassion that is Christ-like in nature. People are Christians because they responded to God's love demonstrated at the Cross. The responsibility of the believer is to share that love with their fellowman. Christians are to become channels for God's love to the world. The Christian community must realize that to love with God's love is to run at a risk. Not everyone will respond, but that should not discourage. God's love is unconditional, to be given freely. We cannot appreciate the mode of helping others until we have a heart that loves.

Being a Good Samaritan is risky living. When we help people we always run the risk of being hurt, taken for granted, abused, and discouraged. Helping others is not easy. Like love, there is no guarantee others will respond. If there were guarantees, would they be acts of faith? On one occasion while Jesus reclined at a table during a meal, He said these words: *"Invite the poor, the cripple, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, since they have no means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous"* (Luke 14:13-14). Good Samaritans simply help, leaving the results to God.

If Christians desire to be "good Samaritans" they must be willing to live at risk. Why? Because Jesus did. He took a risk on twelve men who often did not understand Him. He took a risk on loving a nation who eventually rejected Him. He took a risk by dying for the world at the Cross. Is it too much to ask Christians to take a risk for their fellowman? Risky living is the way of Jesus Christ!

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(Resources: William Barclay's *The Gospel of Luke; New American Standard Bible.*)



Frank Purvis has served as pastor of Northview Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Goldsboro, since 1985. He received B.S. from Atlantic Christian College, Wilson. His wife, Sandy, is studying to be a math teacher.

## TRIBUTE TO MY FRIEND AND PASTOR

# The Rev. Noah D. Brown Sr.

*by Ann Hamilton*

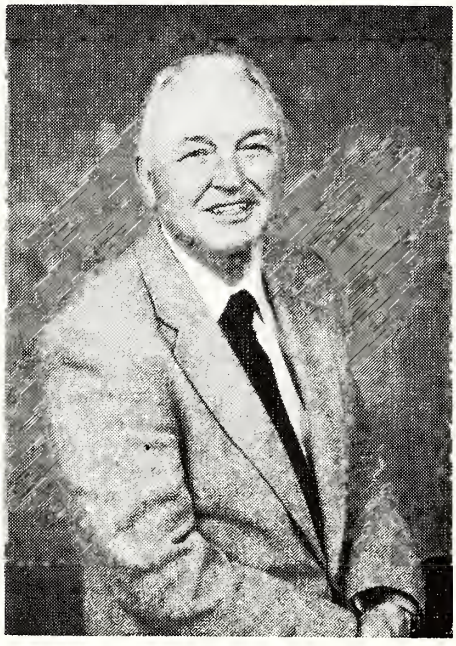
There are no words adequate enough to ever in my lifetime express my feelings of love and compassion for Preacher Brown. Having known him brought so much joy and happiness to my life.

I became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Brown in 1986, when he was ministering some at Vandora Springs Free Will Baptist Church and later became pastor. My family and I were visiting at the time and looking for a home church. I was in a backslidden condition at the time, and under the sound of his ministry I found my way back to the Lord one Sunday night and I praise God for taking me back into the fold.

Preacher Brown shared his knowledge of the Word of God with all that would let him. He was never too busy to stop and tell you what Jesus meant to him and share what the Master had done for him in his life. Preacher Brown was never too busy to listen to you if you had a problem and needed some advice or just needed someone to share your thoughts with. He took time to care.

All of us should let our lives be an inspiration and pattern in life, day by day, for others to follow. We should strive to make Heaven our home one day, as it is now his new home. We should have learned by his presence in our life to care and love one another in a new realm, that we never knew before.

I have been privileged to share many hours with Preacher and Mrs. Brown in my home, business and church. There was never a time when we saw one another that he did not have a smile on his face and stretched out his arms for a hug. I don't know which one of us got more pleasure from the hug, but it sure always made me feel special; but then again, he had a way of making everyone feel special and important, and that was because of the love of God in his heart and life.



I have said many times, I believe he lived what he preached and preached what he lived and that is why we as fellow Christians should pattern our life after his.

There are so many special moments that I could share with you, but I know that all of you have your own special memories of him and his work for the Lord.

There is however, memories of one special day I would like to share and that was Father's Day, June 21, 1987. At this time, Preacher Brown was pastor at Vandora Springs Church and the members there had a plaque designed to honor him for his years of service in God's work. I was asked to say a few words and present him with the plaque. I was honored to have shared that special time with him; and then as now, words cannot express my feelings.

Preacher Brown was at Vandora Springs Church when I decided to join them in their Christian work and fellowship. He taught me a greater love than I have ever known in the Lord; and most of all, he taught me to forgive those that Satan would so often use to try to discourage me in whatever way that seemed to be at hand. Sometimes we as Christians are weak and allow Satan to use us to hurt our brothers and sisters in the Lord, but we must be Christlike enough to forgive and show them love as Preacher Brown has had to do many times in his years of service.

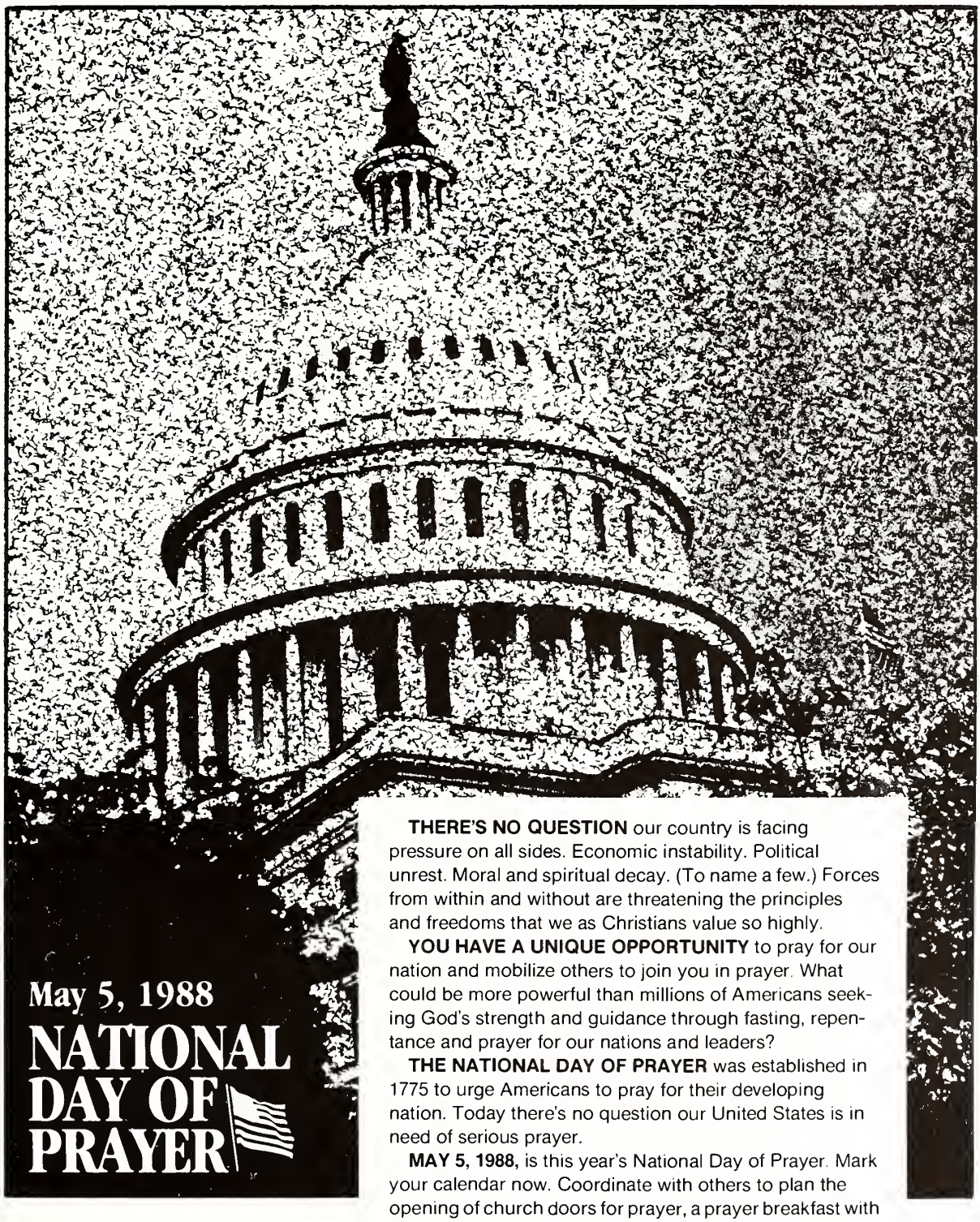
I hope in some small way, I have expressed my love for him. I know that each of us will always remember him for the wonderful person that he was.

To his family, ministers and fellow Christians, our lives have been enriched and blessed by the presence of the Rev. Noah D. Brown Sr.

The funeral for the Rev. Noah D. Brown, 69, of 4809 Pearl Road, Raleigh NC, was Wednesday, February 10, in Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Raleigh, with burial in the church cemetery. He is survived by Mrs. Margaret C. Brown, wife; sons, the Rev. Harry Brown of Durham, Noah D. Brown Jr. of Raleigh; daughters, Mrs. Jean Kittrell of Morehead City, Mrs. Viola Barefoot of Elizabeth City.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Brown Endowment, Home Missions Department, P.O. Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513-0159.

# ONE NATION UNDER PRESSURE




**THERE'S NO QUESTION** our country is facing pressure on all sides. Economic instability. Political unrest. Moral and spiritual decay. (To name a few.) Forces from within and without are threatening the principles and freedoms that we as Christians value so highly.

**YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY** to pray for our nation and mobilize others to join you in prayer. What could be more powerful than millions of Americans seeking God's strength and guidance through fasting, repentance and prayer for our nations and leaders?

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**MAY 5, 1988,** is this year's National Day of Prayer. Mark your calendar now. Coordinate with others to plan the opening of church doors for prayer, a prayer breakfast with government officials or a rally on your state capitol's steps.

Use your influence to help call all Americans to embrace one of our greatest freedoms—**TO PRAY.**

For National Day of Prayer promotional materials contact: National Day of Prayer Task Force, P.O. Box 6826, San Bernardino, CA 92412 (714) 882-9932.

# THOSE DIFFICULT BIBLICAL WORDS

*by Bass Mitchell*

Maher-shalal-hash-baz. Epaphroditus. Anathoth. Caiaphas. Jegar-sahadutha. Onesimus. Jephunneh . . . . The list goes on into the hundreds and even thousands. What list? Those words used in the Bible that strike fear in the mouths of Sunday School teachers. These are the words in almost every chapter of the Bible that seem impossible to read—much less pronounce!

As you know well, it seems that you have at least one such word—one, if you're lucky—in every lesson. Try as you might, you just can't pronounce it. Even if you can, how do you know it's the right pronunciation? What can you do when you run into one of these biblical tongue twisters?

You could do what a friend of mine does. He doesn't even bother to pronounce the words. He's developed what he calls the "Apple Method." When he's teaching a lesson and gets to one of those words, he says, "Apple! We'll come back and eat it later!" Only problem is that he never comes back to eat the "apples."

Well, there's a better way to deal with this problem. You *can* master the pronunciation of any word in the Bible! This article will tell you how.

### Dictionaries

Every teacher should have at least two dictionaries to help in studying the Bible. One is a good Bible dictionary. The other is a regular dictionary of the English language.

A Bible dictionary is an indispensable tool for many reasons. The reason pertinent to this subject is that it can help you know how to pronounce every word in the Bible, especially personal and place names.

A good Bible dictionary will divide the word into syllables, write it out as it's pronounced, and provide a key to pronunciation. For example, "Philemon" would be like this: "Phi-le-mon." It's pronounced "fi lé mən." You are told what syllable to stress (lé). Also, the key to pronunciation, usually a chart in the front of the book, tells you that the "i" in "fi" is pronounced like the one in "ice."

Not all Bible dictionaries provide this kind of aid. Before purchasing one, make sure that it has pronunciation helps. I recommend *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible.* It's in five volumes.

An ordinary English dictionary will help you in pronouncing other difficult biblical words. *Webster's Dictionary* is still hard to beat. It breaks the words down into syllables and provides a key to pronunciation.

At the end of this article you will find a worksheet and activity designed to give you some firsthand experience in using these resources to see how words are pronounced.

Here's a further suggestion. As you learn how each word is divided and spoken, write it down in the margin beside where it's found in your Bible. Then, when you come across it again, it will be there to help you in pronouncing it.

### Lesson Commentaries

Another helpful source in learning how biblical words are pronounced is the lesson commentary. This is simply a resource that helps the teacher understand the lesson and relate it to his or her class. Some of these will show you how to pronounce the difficult words in each lesson.

### Tapes

All the resources mentioned thus far are written ones. Although they can show you in print how the words are pronounced, they cannot pronounce them for you.

Perhaps you are aware that the whole Bible has been recorded on cassette tape. This could be a very helpful resource to you, especially in learning how to pronounce biblical names. Simply find on the tape the passage you're studying. Listen to it several times until you feel confident in pronouncing it. But it's still a good idea to use your dictionaries.

### "Ask, and it shall be given . . ."

Don't be afraid to use the human resources God has given to you. In other words, simply ask others for help in pronouncing those tough biblical words.

Who? Your pastor. Pastors have to read the Bible in public. They make it their business to learn how to pronounce Bible names correctly.

Perhaps other church staff persons could help. For example, your minister of education or associate pastor.

Another good human resource is other teachers. Think for a moment about the teachers in your church. Make a list of those who could help you. You know that they would be pleased to help.

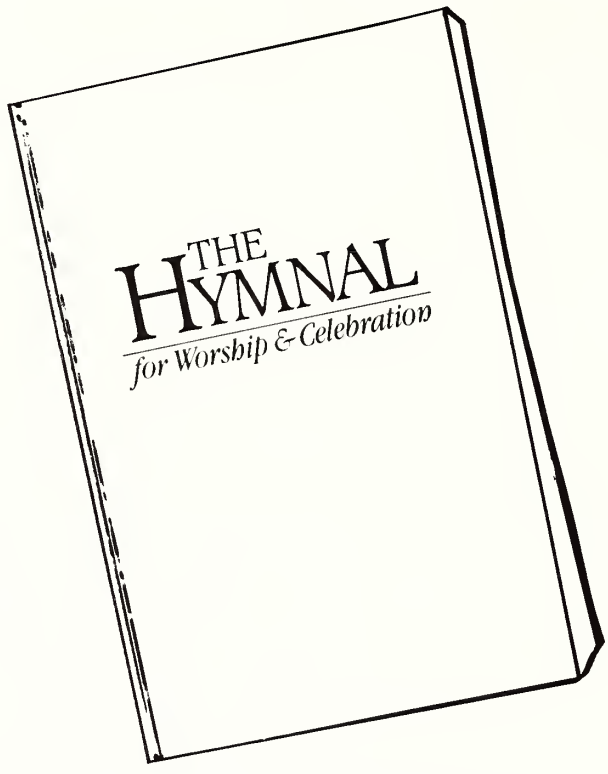
### Practice!

"Practice makes perfect!" That's true for pronouncing difficult biblical words. Keep reading and pronouncing the words until you can say them without hesitating. In fact, read out loud the whole passage you are studying. This will help you in a natural pronunciation of the difficult words as you get to them.

## WORD WORKSHEET

Using your Bible and English dictionaries, look up the words below and give the requested information. Perhaps you would like to look at your next lesson and add some words from it.

| **Words** to be looked up. Include the biblical reference. | **Syllables** of each word. Write down how they're pronounced. | **Notes** on the words—definition, synonym, interesting facts, etc. |
|---|---|---|
| Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25-30; 4:18) | E-paph-ro-di-tus e-paf-roh-di-tuhs | The Philippian who brought gifts from Philippi to Paul in prison. It's a Greek name that means "charming." |
| sepulchre (Matthew 27:60) | | |
| Anathoth (Jeremiah 1:1) | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |




# THE HYMNAL

*by Jack and Julia Bircher*

Greetings, fellow musicians and believers. We are excited about sharing with all of you a new worship tool which we have just reviewed. Most of you have heard of the formation of a Free Will Baptist Hymnal Committee a couple of years ago, and their subsequent recommendation is the focus of this review.

Forgive us if we sound like a commercial, but this particular hymnal is a dramatic departure from anything yet conceived of in church music publishing circles. Word Publishing has had the foresight to incorporate within one volume many features which have been neglected by most publishers! Let us say at the outset that we appreciate the wisdom and prayerful consideration of the Hymnal Committee: Donald Coates, Margaret Ard, Ronnie Hobgood, Janie Sowers, Julia Bircher, Phillip Wood, Phillip Boykin and Joe Griffith. They were charged with researching and recommending the hymnal which bests suits the Free Will Baptist denomination. This task is monumental and time consuming and the field is jumbled with possible materials. Their search culminated with a fine new hymnal called *The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration* by Word Publishing Co. and we will point out some features that should be considered by any church searching for worship and song materials.

High quality bindings and multiple colors immediately attract one to *The Hymnal,* but it is the versatility of this book which is its strength.

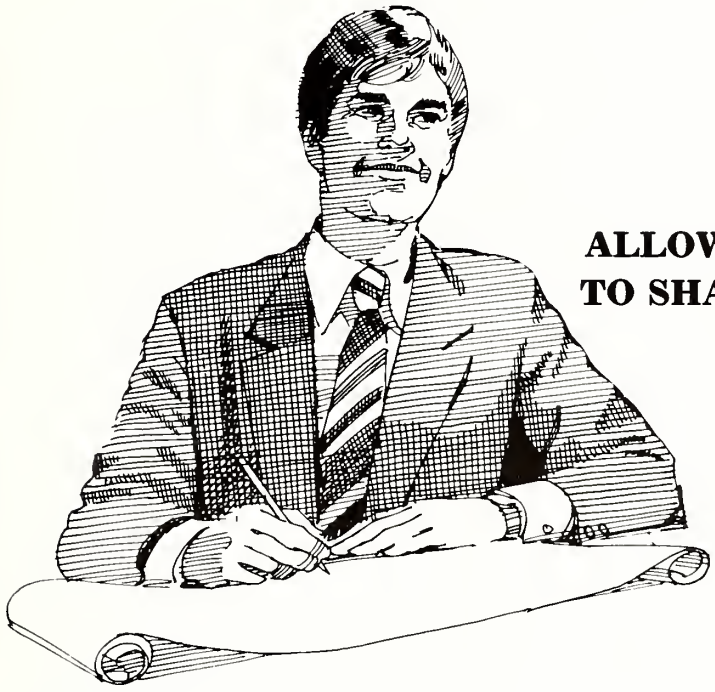
Congregations which enjoy the standard older hymns will find as many as they desire; however, the older traditional gospel tunes are the most scarce of the titles. With over 600 titles, the selection is the most broad that we have seen. These titles also include recent standards such as "His Name Is Wonderful," "My Tribute" and "Something Beautiful." Praise and Scripture songs such as "Alleluia," "He Is Lord" and "Jesus, Name Above All Names" will serve to enhance special worship and informal gatherings. There are over 100 titles of songs never before published in a hymnal.

Of particular interest to those who plan services, are the 25 brief services which are outlined with Scriptures, readings and appropriate hymn stanzas and transitions. This will prove to be very valuable. Another unique feature is the inclusion of such large choral works as Malottes "Lord's Prayer" and two works from Handel's "Messiah," "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" and "Hallelujah Chorus."

There are two distinct editions available. One with Scripture readings and references taken from the King James Version and one which uses references from The New International Version, Revised Standard Version, New American Standard, and the New King James Version.

Special editions are available as follows: Large Note Edition, Pulpit Edition, Loose Leaf Edition and Spiral Accompanist's Edition. To round out the wealth of support material is the availability of complete orchestrations for band and orchestral instruments in any combination.

This hymnal is a fine piece of material for furthering our worship service effectiveness. I do not think that any publisher has yet to do so much to provide church congregations everywhere with such a broad spectrum of hymns, services, support materials and quality. If you see any of the above mentioned committee members, thank them for their recommendation, and most importantly, remember to pray that no matter what worship materials we use, that our service to God through Jesus Christ is the main aim in our lives always!



# ALLOW ME TO SHARE?

*by De W. Eakes*

Will you as readers of this article allow me the opportunity to share something of vital importance? Over the past 23½ years of my life as a minister (I was licensed June, 1964), it has been my privilege to meet a lot of great Free Will Baptist people! My ministry has carried me to many fine churches for various reasons. Many dedicated ministers of all ages have become my friends and colleagues. An often recurring theme in conversations has to do with various aspects of the life of the church. One of these areas has to do with church polity or government. Sometimes, as ministers, one area we are not adequately prepared in is the area of administration/government on the local church level.

Probably, the majority of our Original Free Will Baptist churches are governed by a Board of Deacons. Sometimes this has placed too much responsibility and power in the hands of too few people. There is a better model for churches of one hundred active members or more (this model could work for smaller congregations with some modifications). Upon coming to Little Rock Church in 1969, after approximately four years of pastoral experience, I encountered a new model of church government. That form was called the General Board. I was not sure how I would be able to work with a larger governing board. My previous experience had been working with a Board of Deacons, Trustees or Sunday School Council one at the time. I was pleasantly surprised—the General Board concept worked much better than I had imagined.

The late Rev. M. L. Johnson, a former pastor and able administrator, introduced the General Board to the church about 45 years ago. The General Board originally consisted of the Boards of Deacons and Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, and of course the pastor as "ex officio" member. Later, when a Board of Christian Education was formed (replacing the old Sunday School Council), these persons were added as well as the chairman of the Board of Ushers. The General Board also includes both the Assistant Clerk and Treasurer. The General Board elects its own chairperson for a single three-year term from among its membership.

The entire board serves as an advisory board to the church. It does not act for the church except as authorized by the church by vote of the congregation in a business conference. The General Board meets quarterly, two weeks prior to each regularly scheduled business conference as called for in the church constitution. Each board meets quarterly, makes its recommendations to the General Board, which in turn makes a recommendation to the church in conference. Our Finance Committee consists of the chairperson of each board plus the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and the pastor. The Finance Committee reports to the entire General Board which in turn presents the rcommendation(s) to the church in a proper business conference.

In order to avoid the pitfalls of stagnation, control by a few, in order to continually bring "new blood" into our church's governing body, and to involve as many persons as possible in leadership roles, all of our boards rotate. Our Boards of Deacons, Trustees, Christian Education and Ushers are all elected officers of the church. Each board's term is limited by a rotation off said board. A person cannot serve as Clerk, Treasurer and assistant or on the Boards of Deacons, Trustees or Christian Education simultaneously. A person may serve as an usher and on one of the other boards. A further rule is that two members of the same family either by birth or marriage may not serve as deacons. A long standing rule is that a deacon cannot be elected to a new term

(Turn the Page)



following his 70th birthday; a person already serving may finish his term or fill someone's unexpired term. After age seventy, a deacon may be granted the title of "Honorary Deacon for Life." Those so designated may assist in administering the ordinances if needed, but are not voting members of the General Board.

The existent General Board system has several distinct advantages. Here is a list and brief comment.

1. It involves more people directly in the planning and administrative process. The more people involved gives a greater sense of ownership in the church and creates more real interest.
2. It allows the church to avail itself of the best thinking and creativity of a very significant portion of the congregation.
3. It helps avoid stagnation and strangulation by having new persons coming on the General Board every year. If a person would like to serve and is not asked to do so this year, next year will see at least four new people added, sometimes more.
4. The General Board is where most of the "brainstorming, thinking aloud and verbal debates" take place. The setting is semi-flexible.
5. The direct correlation of #4 is that the business conferences most often are very orderly, more unified and prone to produce "more light and less heat."
6. Another important benefit is that when the General Board makes a recommendation to the church, a significant number of those present at a business conference have already given considerable thought to the motion at hand.
7. The individual boards meet, make their recommendations to the General Board which in turn discusses, adopts, rejects or refines their recommendation, and, if the General Board vote is favorable, presents the recommendation to the church in conference. The idea or action has been through two "processes of committee" prior to presentation to the church.
8. This process builds in added accountability. As the respective boards report to the General Board each becomes more aware of the other's responsibilities and appreciative of jobs well done.

There may be some disadvantages to this structure but they are minor and relatively unimportant when compared to the positive aspects of the system. This system may not work for every congregation but it surely does and has for many years here! In my opinion, any church with an active congregation of seventy or more would benefit from such a system. There are several Original Free Will Baptist Churches using this system or a variation. All pastors whom I have heard comment feel it is a definite plus for the church.

My purpose was to share something good that works for our church and several other churches. Thank you for your time in reading this article.

## FROM THE EDITOR

I have often been called "an accident just waiting to happen." During a recent ski trip, I proved this description to be accurate once more and returned home in two leg braces. Rest and elevated legs became the order by which I lived.

While I was out of work, Mr. Cliff Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press; Robert Hadden, production manager; and the Editorial personnel, Mrs. Verna McLawhorn, Mrs. Teresa Guinn, Mrs. Sheila Benson, and Mr. Jerry Goff, did everything they could to keep things going, doing their jobs as well as mine. This issue was begun while I was recuperating.

I appreciate their help tremendously.

Janie Jones Sowers

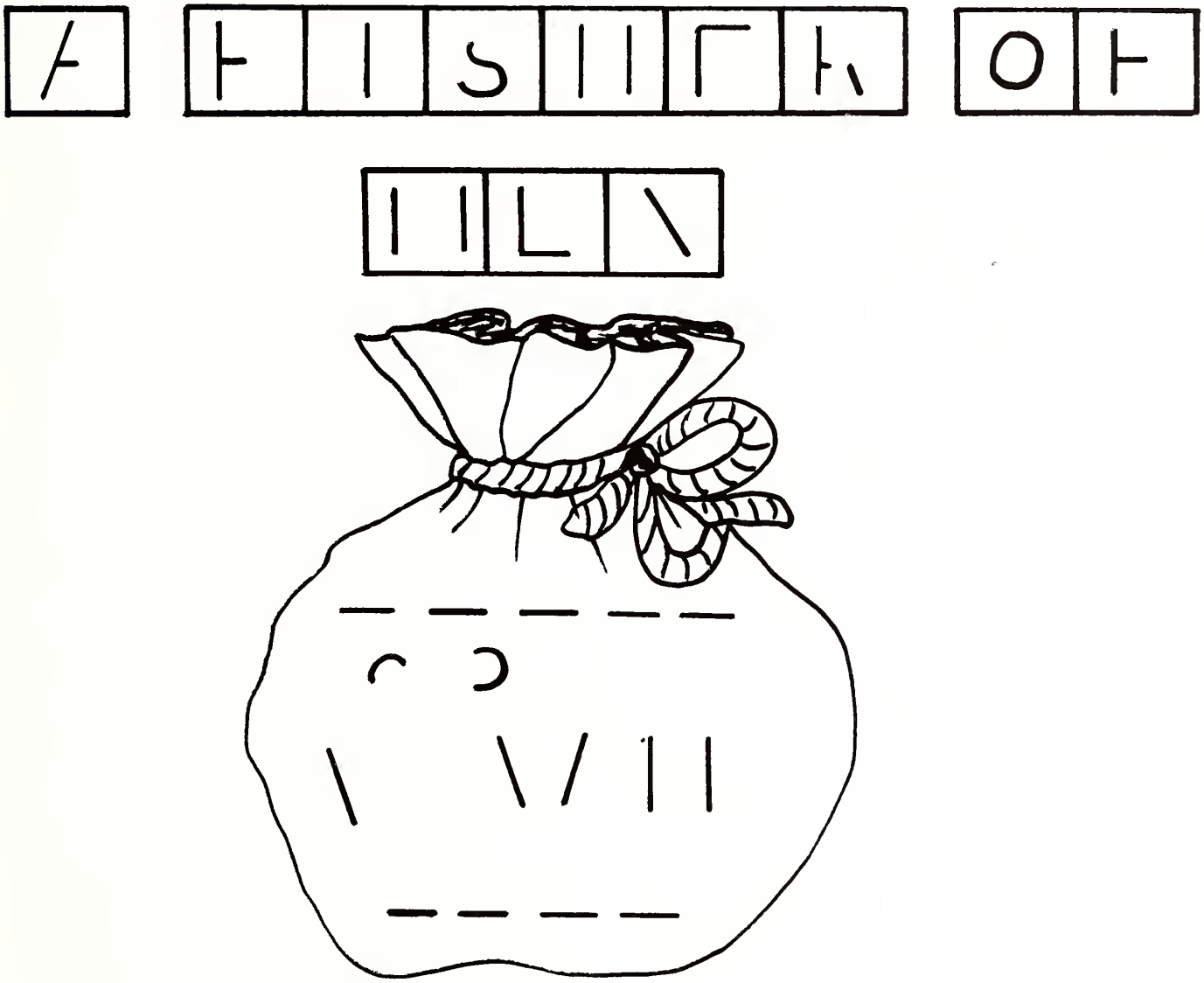
# LET'S GO FISHING!

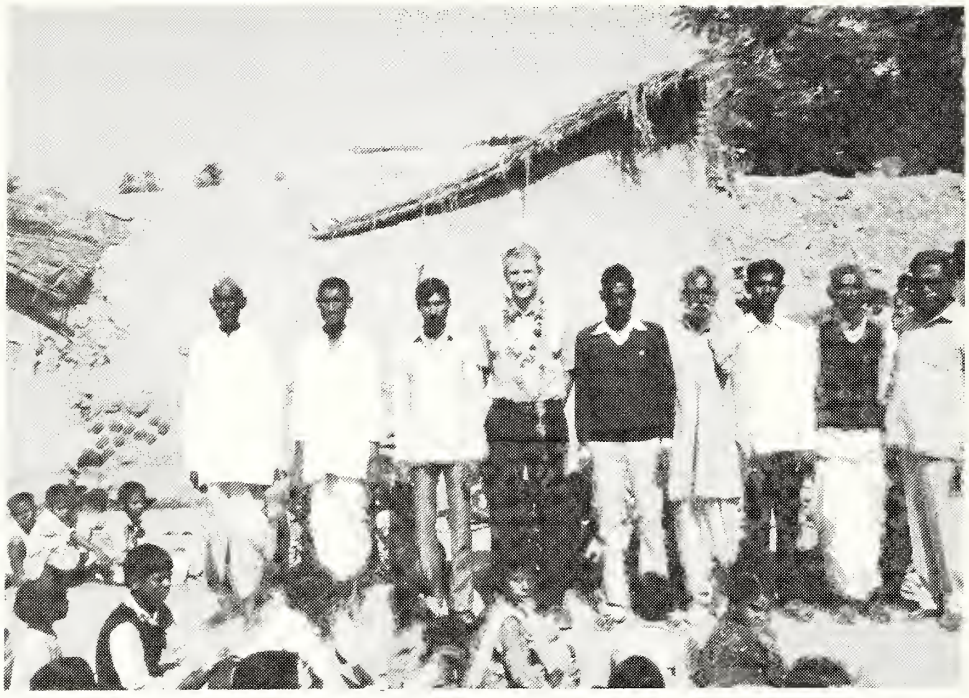
*by Lynette Sumerlin*

When Jesus began His ministry, He chose twelve men to be His disciples. The first four chosen were all fishermen. They were Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Jesus told these men to follow Him and that He would make them fishers of men. He gave them power to preach, to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils.

Did you know that you can be a "fisherman," too? Jesus wants you to live for Him and to tell others about Him. Invite your friends to go to Sunday School, church, and youth meetings with you. See how many "fish" you can catch for Jesus this month.

You, like the disciples, are called to be something special for the Lord. What is it? Parts of the capital letters in the boxes below have been left out. You will find the missing parts in the bag. Use them to finish the letters and answer the question.





## THE REV. HAROLD JONES VISITS INDIA AGAIN!

*by Dr. Emmanuel Lall*

The long-awaited visit of our Director-Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones, was made from November 2-16, 1987. It was indeed a visit of great fellowship and unity with us and we feel we were honored in having him with us.

I personally picked up Mr. Jones from the Delhi Airport in the early hours of November 2. He was to arrive at 12:50 a.m. so we had reached the airport a little after 12 o'clock but most unexpectedly his plane was late by three hours and landed around 4 a.m. Public entry is restricted in the airport for security measures against terrorism. We were outside when he came through the immigration and customs. It was a time of great affection poured out in heart when we embraced each other.

Mr. Jones attended the church convention on the hills which ended on November 6, then we drove back home to Bareilly. From November 7 he became extremely busy in visiting all the schools where school/church buildings have been completed. He inspected 17 schools and the 10 buildings we have so far constructed. At most of these places he met the church congregations. He talked to the school children at each place and heard the congregations, conversed with them and prayed with them.

He united with me in consecrating seven deacons at the time of convention on November 5; and preached in the churches at three places on November 8, where he dedicated 56 children at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Dhaunra; 4 at Kareli church service; and 1 at Asafpur. Besides this he led many prayers with the sick people in our congregations from place to place.

It was felt that in general there was great enthusiasm among our people in having the Rev. Harold Jones at each and every place. Our people planned meetings in such a way that he could meet most of the people who knew him already. We took him to the site of our new venture and he was greatly impressed with tremendous growth of our church work after his visit in 1984.

Even though Mr. Jones was not able to talk to our people in Hindi, he could understand the feelings and responded to them! He travelled in the Jeep and covered approximately 3000 miles including his journey to Delhi.

I am sure that he was impressed with the young leadership in our church with zealous and enthusiastic ministers of high qualification and calibre. This overcomes the question, "Who will follow me?"

We are thankful to the Rev. Harold Jones and the Free Will Baptists in North Carolina for caring and sharing with us. It is our hope that in the future also you will extend your visit in His vineyard in our country. We are eager and praying that the Lord may enable us that we may have Mrs. Sandra Jones and the members of the Board of Foreign Missions visit with us in 1989.

## THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR CHURCH CONVENTION

*by Dr. Emmanuel Lall*

As we submit this report we pause and count our blessings. Through the presence of the Rev. Harold Jones, director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, we exhibited the universal character of the church of our Lord and Master. To this sacred body of Jesus Christ has come down through the centuries an amazing wealth of Christian heritage. The best heritage we have received is the uniqueness of Christ himself, whose life, death and Resurrection and whose wonderful teaching are the greatest treasure that we have. He is alive and we believe that He is the answer to all the problems of the world. With all these blessings the church confronts the tangled world of our day.

Our Convention was held from October 31 to November 6, 1987, at the Sat Tal Estate, with the theme "Draw Nigh to God, and He Will Draw Nigh to You" (James 4:8). It was a wonderful time of fellowship and official business.

The Holy Spirit touched all the participants who dedicated their lives for the cause of Christ and renewed themselves in Spirit. This time of uniqueness was marked, felt, and experienced by all those who were present in the Convention.

The number of participants rose as high as 125 (delegates) consisting of ministers, deacons and laymen. Usually the number of delegates in the past remained between 50-70 but this time there was an unexpected flow of people from all our churches because of the visit of the Rev. Harold Jones. It is evident that he has won the hearts of our people! It was known that our people felt that Mr. Jones would not be able to visit each and every congregation of the church and the allied schools so quite many people were sent by their churches to attend the Convention and to enjoy the fellowship of Mr. Jones.

The reports presented in respect of churches and the schools led us to accept the fact that there is vast growth and development in every sphere of our work. There is an increase in total membership of the church as a result of mass baptisms and a steady increase in the number of women's membership which was hardly expected.

One of the main subject matters discussed in the Convention at large was that "will the church, we mean the Free Will Baptist Church in India, survive in the event of stoppage of foreign funds from the Board of Foreign Missions?" It was decided that the church should be made a spiritual base and a via media should be found out in the establishment of either an English medium school or the hospital. This will provide an institution where we can serve as well as earn the expenses of our church need. The matter has also been brought to the notice of our director-treasurer the Rev. Harold Jones.

It was a unique scene witnessing people advancing toward the altar on the last day for confession, dedication and renewal. Many people were seen with tears rolling down from their eyes, bowing for prayer for their consecration. We affirm that all those who participated in the Convention had their fellowship with the Lord. It was also felt that our church should do more to achieve His hidden purpose "namely that the universe, all in heaven and on earth, might be brought into a unity in Christ" (see Ephesians 1:4-10). This was the outcome of very stirring and thought-provoking messages delivered by the Rev. Harold Jones in daily devotional services.



Lydia with Fred's mother.

## SPECIAL FRIEND

*by Willem van der Plas*



The Pleasant Hill Church group.

Lydia and I recently visited Pleasant Hill Church, the church where the Rev. Fred Baker grew up and where his mother worships. We shared as much as we could about Fred and Linda's work, showing slides and answering questions. I never knew that people could ask so many different questions in one night. In spite of bad weather, we had quite a number of people attending the program. We have come to know one another, enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere and went home with good feelings for one another. Among the people was a mother and grandmother who is waiting for her children and grandchildren to return home after a period of five years of service in the Philippines as missionaries. Because of her, our admiration for parents and children who let us go to work in this part of the Lord's service was heightened.

# MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

## TELETHON SUNDAY: MARCH 27, 1988

**The World Needs a Witness**
**Your gift to Foreign Missions is an expression of your obedience to the Great Commission.**

## Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions March 27, 1988

**North**

**West** **East**

**The witness to the world must be simultaneous. Your prayers for the lost and labourers express your love and concern for the Great Commission**

**South**

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

P.O. Box 39
Ayden, N.C. 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963

**Telethon Theme:** "The Greatest Issue Before the Church—The Great Commission"
**Goal 1988:** Every Free Will Baptist congregation a participant in the Telethon and Day of Prayer for Revival and World Missions. All congregations gathered around the altar to pray for revival and world missions at 11:50 a.m. and all churches calling in their special offering for Foreign Missions between 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Dial 919/746-4963 or 746-6128.

Our obedience to the Great Commission will make this the greatest Telethon ever.

## WORSHIP SERVICES BEING HELD ON CAMPUS



The Rev. Billy Toler

Sunday morning worship services are now being held in Memorial Chapel on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The Rev. Billy Toler is our minister and leads in the service.

Mr. Toler was ordained on May 27, 1981, and has served as pastor of Stony Hill and Calvary Free Will Baptist Churches. He and his wife Margie live in Fremont with their two children, Lee and Cindy.

Our children enjoy having services on campus and the opportunity to participate more in the worship service. They also welcome you to visit and worship with them on Sunday mornings.

## ADULT GROUP FROM MARLBORO CHURCH VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME

The Rev. Scott Sowers and the Adult Day Fellowship Group of Marlboro Church visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Tuesday, January 19. They invited the retirees that live on campus and the staff of the Children's Home to join them for lunch.

Following lunch everyone began a tour of the campus. The tour was cut short due to the rain and cold weather, but all enjoyed the visit.

There were two special guests with the group from Marlboro. They were Mrs. Nannie Williams Hobgood and Mrs. Nellie Williams Allen. These two sisters grew up at the Children's Home and enjoyed sharing some of their experiences while living here.



A special thanks to the adult group from Marlboro Church for visiting their child care ministry. We would like to extend an invitation to you and your group to visit our campus and see for yourself your Children's Home.

## QUALITY CHILD CARE AVAILABLE AT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME



The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is proud to announce that Dr. Thomas M. Swartzwelder began January 11, 1988, visiting our campus twice a week and counseling our children.

Some of our children have been traveling to Rocky Mount, Wilson and Raleigh as much as twice a week for counseling. Now our children can talk with Dr. Swartzwelder on campus, where they are more comfortable and not have to spend so much time traveling.

By Dr. Swartzwelder being on campus, this gives our houseparents the opportunity to talk to him about our children and opportunities to better serve the children.

Having Dr. Swartzwelder on campus helps us meet the challenge of providing quality child care to the children we serve.

## RODGERS CHAPEL: THE CENTER OF RELIGIOUS LIFE AT MOC

*by Kathy D. Bateman*
Public Information Officer
Mount Olive College

Mount Olive College is commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of William Robert Rodgers for whom the College's Rodgers Chapel is named. Rodgers would have been 100 years old in 1988.

Rodgers Chapel was made possible in part by a major gift from Sarah Condon Rodgers in loving memory of her husband. Other contributions were made by Free Will Baptist churches, individuals, alumni and friends.



Designed by G. Milton Small, Architect, of Raleigh, and constructed by T. A. Loving Company of Goldsboro, the Chapel was dedicated in August 1974 "to the glory of God and for the spiritual enrichment of Mount Olive College."

Since that time, regular worship services have been held in Rodgers Chapel each Sunday and Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. for MOC students, faculty and staff, and members of the community.

"The Chapel symbolizes the commitment of the College to the total education of students, both academic and spiritual," said Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College.

The Rev. Frank Harrison, chaplain at MOC said, "The Chapel has been a tremendous asset to the religious life program of the campus.

"The Chapel has also provided a very fine facility for denominational conventions and youth and adult conferences, as well as a place of meeting and worship for denominational groups," said Harrison.

William Rodgers of Stantonsburg was one of the most enterprising and progressive businessmen of Wilson County. He was active in the control of various commercial banking, manufacturing and agricultural interests, and owned W. H. Applewhite Company and its holdings.

Both Rodgers and his wife were members of the Stantonsburg Methodist Church. Rodgers was a member of the American Legion and Masonic Lodge. He served on the Stantonsburg Town Board and on the Board of Directors of Planter's Bank of Stantonsburg, which later merged with BB & T. After the banks merged, Rodgers continued to serve on the Board of Directors of Branch Bank and Trust Company in both the Stantonsburg branch and the main office in Wilson until his death on January 4, 1969.

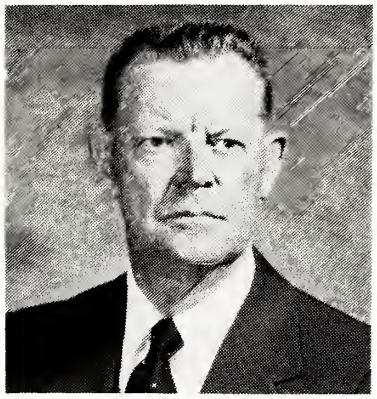
Mrs. Rodgers, age 96, now lives in Wilson, NC.

## DR. BATTEN SPEAKS AT MOC SPRING CONVOCATION

*by Kathy D. Bateman*
Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

"Colleges don't make people. People make colleges, and colleges give each person an opportunity," said Dr. James W. Batten, speaker at Mount Olive College's annual Spring Convocation.

The former chairman of the Department of Secondary Education at East Carolina University urged students and faculty to seek the definition of truth as one of their goals and to work to fulfill their purpose in life.



*Dr. James W. Batten*

"Nearly 175 years ago, men were marching with bated breath the power of Napoleon," said Batten. "They were waiting with feverish impatience for news of the wars. All the while babies were being born. Who could think about babies? Everybody was thinking about battles."

Batten reminded the audience of the births of such history makers as Gladstone, Tennyson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Charles Darwin, Abraham Lincoln and Felix Mendelssohn. "Which of the battles of 1809 mattered more than the babies of 1809?" asked Batten. "The world may not be better managed with battalions than with beautiful babies. Many beautiful babies need opportunities," he added. "When a wrong needs righting, a truth needs finding, a continent wants opening, a baby is sent into this world to do it."

Batten himself was one of those babies. In 1960, Dr. Batten was elected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to train the seven Mercury Astronauts in celestial recognition and celestial mechanics. Since that time he has lectured extensively on the subject of earth and space.

Prior to his 16-year tenure at ECU, Dr. Batten taught for 30 years in North Carolina schools. He is active in a number of professional organizations and is a member of the Micro Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County.

**COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE**

*Board of Trustees* — *Tuesday, March 22*

The Spring Quarterly Meeting of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees will be held in College Hall beginning at 9:30 a.m.

*Pierson Lecture* — *Thursday, March 24*

Topic: "Major Ethical Issues in Our Time." Speaker: Dr. Joseph H. Beasley, former professor at U. S. Military Academy at West Point and now director of Ravencroft School, Raleigh. College Hall, 8:15 p.m.

*Student Visitation Day* — *Saturday, April 16*

A program of activities for high school students to learn about Mount Olive College. Begins at 10 a.m. and continues through lunch. For information contact Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Phone: 919/658-2502.

*Graduation, 10 a.m., College Hall* — *Saturday, May 7*

The largest number of graduates in the history of the College is expected.

*State Youth Convention* — *Friday—Saturday, May 13-15*

Sponsored by State Youth Convention. For information, contact either Mrs. Suzanne Coates, Box 450, Pine Level, NC 27568 (phone: 919/934-2727); or Mrs. Joan Little, Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, NC 27828 (phone: 919/753-3217).

*Gospel Music Festival* — *Saturday, May 21*

Begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day at Eagles Nest. Sponsored by State Layman's League Convention.

*Spiritual Life Retreat* — *Saturday, June 11*

Begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day at Eagles Nest. Sponsored by State Layman's League Convention. A great spiritual resource for both ministers and laypersons.

**For More Information on These Events:** Contact Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss or Frank R. Harrison, Henderson Building, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Phone: (919) 658-2502.

**STUDENT VISITATION DAY TO BE HELD AT MOC**

Free Will Baptist high school students are invited to attend Student Visitation Day at Mount Olive College, Saturday, March 26, at 10 a.m.

Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about all areas of student life at MOC. Activities include campus tours and a college fair, where students will have the chance to meet MOC's faculty and staff.

Other events include small group discussions concerning admissions, financial planning and scholarship information, student life and academic affairs, as well as individual conferences.

Lunch will be provided with entertainment by the Mount Olive College Concert Choir, and at 1 p.m., students will be treated to a Jayvee baseball game as Mount Olive College meets Anderson Junior College.

Free Will Baptist students are encouraged to join us for this special day. For further information, contact Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, 28365. Phone 919/658-2502.



## ALMOST READY TO GO AGAIN

*by Lydia van der Plas*

Before we went on furlough in May, 1987, we were excited to see our family in Holland, and our friends and "brother and sisters" in the churches in North Carolina and throughout the United States. And now, February, 1988, I have the feeling that somehow we lost some time in the fall. Even now, the weeks seem to be getting shorter.

We had a wonderful time visiting Cragmont with the ladies of the Woman's Auxiliaries, visiting the churches, giving slide presentations, and attending the missions conferences. And last, but not least, we have enjoyed our studies here at Mount Olive College.

The first semester, I studied hymnody, applied voice and I was singing in the chapel choir. Now I am occupied with music appreciation and conducting. I will never forget the way my three teachers have helped me in my studies. Mrs. Weldon, Mrs. Knox, and Mrs. Patten are three very special ladies and I consider it a privilege that I was able to study in their courses.

God willing, we will leave around May 24. We are allowed to spend two weeks in Holland before we travel on to the Philippines. On January 26, we became grandparents. Our eldest son Herman and his wife Marie Louise received a baby girl, "Ira." In April, our second son and his wife Marrianne expect their baby, our second grandchild. We hope and pray that we are able to see and hold our two grandchildren before we leave. What blessings!

I am very thankful for all the people who showed their love and support. Please let us continue to pray for one another.

I love you in the name of the Lord.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**

**The zip code for mail going to our missionaries in Palawan, Philippines has been changed to 5300. Please use this zip code on all future correspondence to the Philippines.**

## FWB RETIREMENT HOMES, INC. TODAY

*by Walter Sutton*

Yesterday's accomplishments are with us today. Today's accomplishments will be with us tomorrow. Two good reasons why we must plan with care today. Today's opportunities are with us. Failure to translate them into good management practice and service that will benefit our retired citizens is destined to haunt us tomorrow. We are thankful for our past. We have faith tomorrow will come. Today is with us. Herein lies our responsibility. This paper is our attempt (on our behalf) to inform each reader a bit of what goes on here at the Retirement Homes office each day.

Retirement Homes Office: In the early years, we operated without an office of our own. Arrangements were made whereby the office personnel employed by the Free Will Baptist Children's Home would provide bookkeeping and secretarial services. The Retirement Homes ministry paid for these services each month on an hourly basis. The Board chairman directed the ministry by commuting to Middlesex one day each week. (In those days the work-load was not nearly as heavy as today.) This arrangement was followed for a number of years. The North Carolina State Convention led by its president, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, voted to establish a Denominational Headquarters office complex in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation building in Ayden, NC, at its annual setting in Kinston early in this decade. (The denominational headquarters concept dates back to November 17, 1957, when the Rev. N. B. Barrow established the first official Headquarters on the campus of Mount Olive College,

Mount Olive, NC.) The Retirement Homes Board of Directors requested suitable office space from the Executive Committee. The request was granted. The Retirement Homes ministry immediately set up its office with secretarial and bookkeeping service (in the spring of 1985). All our records and business were transferred from Middlesex to the new office in Ayden, NC. Locating our office in the Denominational Headquarters office complex has been a plus for this ministry. Free Will Baptist people were assured then more than ever before that their retirement ministry was *sound* and would *remain so.* Little by little our office has turned the eyes of our retired citizens in our direction, causing them to inquire and seek our benefits. The retired families who live in our apartments and those who receive cash benefits each month are evidences of the previous statement.

Moreover, it has helped to relax any doubts or reservations that lingered in the minds of some who may have thought this retirement ministry, with its schedule of benefits, might not survive. We are here *today*—alive and well. The denomination is offering some hope and help to its retired citizens through its Retirement Homes office. Thankful we all should be; it has not always been that way in the past. But we do believe it will be true for all the years ahead. Because we all are recognizing that care for the retired is as important as caring and providing for the needs of people in the earlier stages of life. Our Christian responsibility here is great—equalized. Friends, I declare to you now, our responsibility to one another does not end at age 50, 60 or any other age. Let this truth hasten to grip your heart. It is just as honorable and necessary that we help provide for the physical and spiritual needs of those we love and who have loved us and labored before us in our homes and churches as it is to help someone living in some remote part of the world or some homeless boy or girl in our midst.

Our Retirement Homes office is more than four walls, furniture and a director's chair. The one who sits in the chair is not nearly as important as is the business and the people served. Visitors are welcome. Conversation and fellowship are enjoyed. In these lighter times we are happy to share our Retirement Homes success story with our friends and loyal supporters. We take pride in what we have accomplished together. But the Retirement Homes office is a business office devoted exclusively to the task of providing care and help to our retired citizens. In a manner of speaking, we live and breathe retirement daily. Let me illustrate the preceding statement: A retired citizen knocks at our door. We introduce ourselves and sit down. We listen patiently as our visitor tells of plans (etc.) that did not work out in his favor. His words turn to inquiry and request for help. We receive his application and assure him that some help will be forthcoming. My visitor friend departs. *Then* and *there my work begins* because there are *no* homes or apartments in this office. They are out there in the communities where Free Will Baptist people live. We have to find a home that will meet our applicant's needs. We begin negotiations for possession. When the home is in our possession, we have to bring it up to our living standards through renovations and decorating processes. When the work is completed, the applicant can move in. If the applicant chooses to live in his home, a schedule of cash benefits will have to be prepared. We don't print money here at the Retirement Homes office. God has some money. It is in the hands of Free Will Baptist people. We have to find them and invite them to share their resources with us. The same is true with our churches and their treasury. Agreement papers will have to be prepared and signatures by the parties included. Our work does not go without reward. Thank God, thank God. There are Free Will Baptist people and churches that care and are willing to assist us in providing a home or a monthly cash benefit, that will help them in their day-to-day cost of living. The business agreement entered into by our office and the applicant (by which they receive their home, apartment or cash benefits) never becomes knowledge beyond the door to our office. Clearly, business that relates to the personal lives of our retired citizens *begins* and *ends* in the Retirement Homes office. Let this truth be understood by everyone.

There is another area to which we give daily attention here at the Retirement Homes office. We plan to operate our ministry for our retired citizens so as to *complement* the whole ministry of our State Convention. We do this in a number of ways. First, physical properties whether owned, rented or leased are maintained in first-class condition. We do not delay when repairs to our homes are needed. An appliance is repaired or replaced immediately. We do not place our retired citizens in substandard homes and expect them to live as second-class citizens. We maintain our yards with utmost care. We are committed to the task of keeping our properties beautiful both inside and outside. Good stewardship is taking the best care of what God has placed in our trust and using it for purposes that will benefit His people and glorify His name.

Second, we keep a constant vigil over those who are retired in our care. When we visit with them, we hear their requests, answer their

(Turn the Page)

questions, inform them of our progress and assure them they will have a home with us tomorrow. We pray *with* them and *for* them. To my knowledge, we have never received an unworthy, unthankful family. Each retired family in our care always asks me to thank the Free Will Baptist people for supporting a ministry that is committed to providing homes for the retired of the denomination. Without question, physical properties are necessary to our purpose. But, the physical and spiritual lives of our retired are *more* important. What better way can we complement the Convention ministry than to provide the best care for both?

Third, we give attention daily to our own business. We take pride in all our past business transactions. We will continue to honor these agreements. We have not taken advantage of anyone. We have honestly tried to protect our interests with compassion for those who ask our help. There is no room in our office or in our heart when we report our ministry at denominational meetings for selfishness, jealousy, or ill will toward anyone or any ministry of the Convention. We are not competing for time, money or favor that belongs to another. We do not seek success at another's expense. We are interested in togetherness, peace and success to the good of the whole. We will not wrestle nor enter into a tangled verbage with anyone. Such energies and words are useless and complement no one. Our time is best spent fulfilling the purpose for which the Convention birthed us—providing homes and care for the retired. That is our business. That is what we will do. That is what we do best. We believe the decision will merit us favor from both God and man. I cannot think of a more excellent and appropriate way to complement, beautify and adorn our office, our ministry and our Convention than to take pride in our properties, our people and our business.

Well, my friends, now you know a bit of what transpires here at our office each day. Little by little, the daily work load increases. There is so much work that needs to be done out there among the rank and file of the Free Will Baptist people and churches. This ministry needs week-to-week, Sunday-to-Sunday promotion in our churches. I know there are many who do not understand fully our admission procedure, our charges, our schedule of benefits, etc. Perhaps a consecrated promotional effort by our office would bring increased understanding of our ministry and financial support. We are addressing ourselves to these needs. Decisions will be made. We need your prayers and gift support.

Next month we will address ourselves to the biblical basis for our retirement ministry.



The Executive Director of Home Missions, David C. Hansley, receives a check for H'mong Youth Bibles from Pearsall Chapel Church. Pictured from left to right are David C. Hansley; Mrs. Benson, youth leader; Mrs. Powell, member; the Rev. David Thick, pastor.



The Rev. Bobby Carden, pastor of White Oak Church, Bladenboro, presents to the Executive Director of Home Missions, David C. Hansley, the church's January "Your Change Can Make a Change" offering. The donation was in excess of $300.

**ANNIE STEPHENSON CRAGMONT ENDOWMENT AWARD**

Annie Stephenson was a dedicated Christian, devoted to Cragmont. She was a spiritual leader in her home, church, and community. In her everyday life she exemplified compassion and love; many people were influenced by her example.

Cragmont Woman's Conference was a spiritual highlight of Annie's life for many years. At her death, September 18, 1985, an endowment was established in Annie's memory in order that others might experience what she enjoyed there.

If your Auxiliary would like to nominate a person to receive an expense-paid trip to the 1988 Woman's Conference, please submit her name by May 15, 1988. Include with your nomination a brief explanation of why you would like this person selected.

Send information to: Mrs. Robert J. Rhodes, Route 1, Box 403-B, Smithfield, NC 27577.

**ATTENTION: YOUTH GROUPS**

Our Cherub and AFC literature has been available in our bookstores since January. The Youth Ministries Literature Committee was asked to prepare and write materials that would foster spiritual growth in our young people, through in-depth Bible study, and many activities geared to varied learning levels.

In order to use the Teacher's Guide effectively, much preparation is needed to decide which activities are appropriate for the needs of your youth group. There have been activities prepared for you to meet on a weekly basis if you should desire it. If you meet monthly and do not need all these extra activities, share them with co-workers in Sunday School, Leagues, or with parents who wish to help instruct their children in the Old and New Testament Scriptures.

The format of this literature is different in 1988. It is our hope that you will prepare yourself, use this new format and give it a chance to speak to your young people.

We feel that God led in the compiling of this material. Much prayer, thought, and hard work was done to give you a chance to grow spiritually and to share it with others.

Youth Ministries
Literature Committee

**STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION**

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at Christian Chapel Church, 3 miles east of Pink Hill, North Carolina, on Saturday, March 12, 1988. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the convention will begin at 10 a.m.

"Honesty Before All" (2 Corinthians 8:21) has been selected for this year's theme. The Rev. William van der Plas will bring the morning message, and a singspiration will be held after lunch.

Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills will be held, with winners receiving an expense-paid or one-half expense-paid trip to Cragmont this summer. Each church should enter one contestant in the Junior drill (ages 9-11) and one contestant in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15). Study materials were distributed at the convention last year.

Leagues are requested to send a generous contribution for our state project—Cragmont (debt retirement on main building)—at least $75, or what they can.

## MORNING STAR RETREAT

### (Woman's Auxiliary Mini-Retreat)

**Dates**—April 8-10, 1988

**Times**—Begins at 8 p.m. Friday
Adjourns at 11 Sunday

**Where**—Cragmont Assembly
Black Mountain, NC

**Cost**—$30

Includes—2 nights (Friday and Saturday)
4 meals (3 meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday)

Registration—$10
Mail to—Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

The remaining $20 due upon arrival.

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and fun.

For information, please contact:

Co-Directors—Dola Dudley
510 5th Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810

## HEAVENLY COMPANION

*by Robert L. Hadden*
Production Manager, FWB Press

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

Praise God! How blessed we are to believe in a loving and caring Father.

My friends have often asked me how I drive back and forth from the "Press" each day, approximately 76 miles, without getting bored. I just smile and say, "You get used to it." But deep within my heart, I know the reason.

Each mile I spend talking to God about my problems, whether they be in my personal life or problems I may face at work each day. It is not a one-sided conversation, for I know God is listening and I see His answers everywhere.

Oftentimes, I think there is no way I could possibly please God or even consider that I could enter Heaven. But then I think of John 3:16, and realize that God gave His Son Jesus to die for me on a Cross at Calvary, that as long as I believe in Him, I will have eternal life in Christ.

I do not fear death on this earth, for I know death here will be just one stone on the pathway to Heaven and life everlasting with God, my Father.

It would be wise for all of us each day to take a "trip," whether it be in a car or in our living rooms and talk with God. But most importantly, we need to let God talk back to us.

Be open, be ready to receive God's answers and be ready to experience a feeling you may have never experienced before.

God loves us and offers to us the greatest treasures we could ever imagine. He does not make it hard for us nor does He put any restrictions on His blessings.

All we need to do is "believe." Believe and have eternal life with God. What more could we ask for? What more could we need? Christ is the answer; today, tomorrow and for eternity.



Emerson Church, located near Tabor City and a member of the Pee Dee Association, recently received the Key of Excellence for contributions made to the Home Missions Key Program. Pictured left to right are David C. Hansley, executive director of Home Missions; Dallas Byrd, deacon of Emerson Church; and the Rev. Hollon Norris, pastor; receiving the plaque.



**Mid-Atlantic Sunday School Convention**

**March 11-12, 1988**

**Calvary Church**
Sardis at Randolph Roads
Charlotte, North Carolina

**Dr. Kenneth G. Hanna**
Keynote Speaker
Author, Educator
President, Bryan College
Dayton, Tennessee

**Seventy-five Workshops**
**Two General Sessions**
**Large Exhibit Area**
**Special Music & Features**

*Convention begins at 5:30 p.m. Friday & closes at 4:00 p.m., Saturday*

**Registration: $10.00 per person before March 4, $12.00 per person at the door. Group rates available.**

**MASSA, Inc.**
P.O. Box 29045
Charlotte, NC 28229-9045
*For information call:*
*(704) 545-6161*
*(919) 852-3290*

MASSA
*Serving Churches for Fourteen Years*



# North Carolina State Sunday School Convention

## March 5, 1988

## Winterville Free Will Baptist Church

## Theme: The Creative Sunday School

| | |
|---|---|
| 8-8:45 a.m. | Registration |
| 8:45-9:45 a.m. | Business Session |
| 9:45-10:30 a.m. | Workshops: Session One |
| 10:30-10:45 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45-11:30 a.m. | Workshops: Session Two |
| 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | Workshops: Session Three |
| 12:15 p.m. Until | Teacher of the Year Presentation Banquet |

**Workshops for Teachers of Children**

Creative Teaching Through Music, Jack and Julia Bircher
Creative Teaching Through Arts and Craft, Lynette Sumerlin
Discipline in the Sunday School Class, Kristi Bailey

**Workshops for Teachers of Youth**

Understanding Teens, Madge VanHorne
Counseling Teens, James Cahoon
Creative Teaching Activities With Teens, Janie Jones Sowers

**Workshops for Teachers of Adults**

How to Foster and Guide Class Discussions, Gary Bailey
Creative Audio-Visuals for Teaching Adults, Scott Sowers
Counseling Adults, C. Ray Taylor

**Workshops for Sunday School Leaders**

Creative Ideas for Improving Your Sunday School, Bass Mitchell
What Am I Supposed to Do? (Responsibilities of Sunday School Superintendents), Doug Skinner and Alan Blount

# CRAGMONT TOURNAMENT



## GOLF TOURNAMENT, APRIL 29

A day of fun and excitement is scheduled for the first 144 golfers to register in the second annual spring golf tournament to raise funds for Cragmont. The tournament is scheduled to be played April 29 at the FARMVILLE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB in Farmville, North Carolina. The features of the tournament are as follows:

FORMAT: Four-man team superball
TEE TIME: 9 a.m. (shotgun start)
1 p.m. (shotgun start)
TROPHIES: Top three teams
Closest to pin on par 3's
Longest drive
PRIZES: Awarded to trophy winners
Several drawings
ENTRY FEE: $30 (cart and evening meal included)
EVENING MEAL: For golfer and entire family
REMEMBER: Only the first 144 golfers to register will play!

Team eligibility will be determined by the following scale:

| Player Status | Average Score | Handicap | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 77-less | 4 Less | 4 |
| B | 78-85 | 5-11 | 3 |
| C | 86-92 | 12-17 | 2 |
| D | 93-more | 18 more | 1 |

A team may have any combination that does not exceed 11 points. No more than 72 players can tee off either time.

You may register as an individual or with one, two, or three other persons. If you sign up as a group of 4, your foursome is guaranteed for the tournament. If you sign with less than 4, we will complete your foursome for you. Also, if you sign up with less than 4, you may have to be split up to make a team. If you sign with less than 4, please designate a team captain. The team captain can elect a guaranteed partner.

---

### REGISTRATION FORM

PLAYER NAME _____

HOME PHONE _____ PLAYER STATUS _____

TEAM CAPTAIN'S NAME _____ Number eating _____

GUARANTEED PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

Preferred Tee Time _____ 9:00 a.m.

_____ 1:00 p.m.

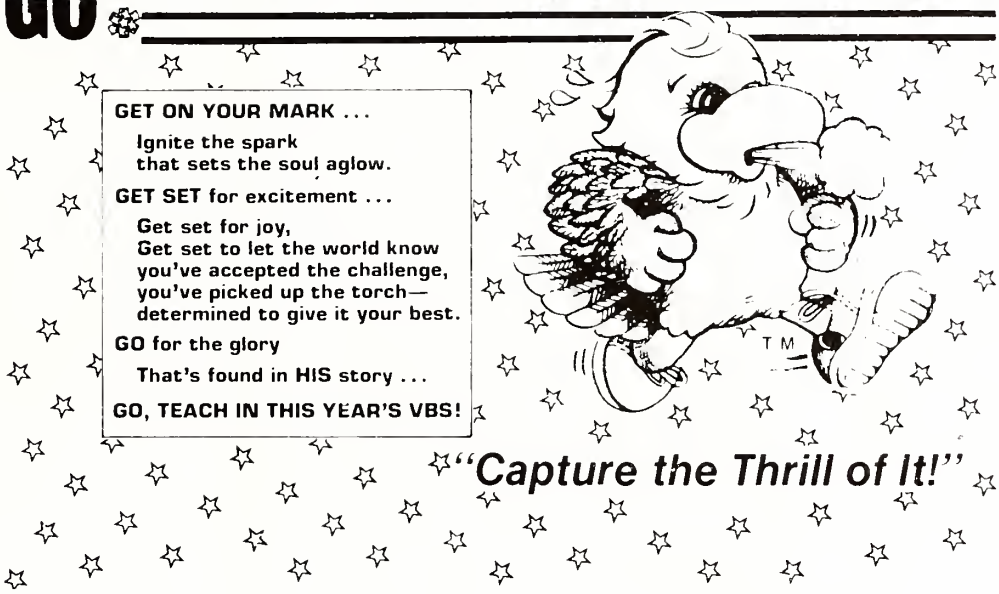
If you would like to play in the tournament, contact Bryant Hines: Home phone 756-3853

Make checks payable to: CRAGMONT EVENTS

Mail to: Bryant Hines
P.O. Box 878
Winterville, NC 28590

# CHAMPIONS FOR JESUS

## GO!




**Preview 1988 Vacation Bible School materials**
**Tuesday, March 15, at the Free Will Baptist Press, 7 p.m.**

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**FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES, INC.**
**"A Caring Ministry for the Retired"**



The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc. is pleased to announce that Mrs. Elizabeth D. Barfield has been admitted into our care. She will live in our apartment located at 403 North Lee Street, Ayden, NC.

Mrs. Barfield joined Elm Grove Church, Ayden, in the 1930s. She later moved her membership to First Church, Ayden, where she served as a Sunday School teacher and clerk. Eleven years ago, she moved to Plymouth, where she has been attending First Church, Plymouth.

She is the mother of four children: Curtis E. of Plymouth, Peggy James of Colorado, Bobby of Maryland, and Sara Persinger of New York. Mrs. Barfield has eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

We welcome Mrs. Barfield to the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes family.

Walter J. Sutton, *Director*



The Rev. Jimmie Barfield, left; Allen Barbee, right.

THE REV. JIMMIE BARFIELD, pastor of Watson's Grove Church, Route 3, Kenly, was recently presented a plaque of appreciation for the 27 years he has served the church as pastor. Allen Barbee, a Watson's Grove deacon, made the presentation on behalf of the church membership.

Other churches Mr. Barfield has pastored include Malachi's Chapel, Columbia; Rock Springs, Bailey; and Mount Zion of Kenly.

THE NORTHEAST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, MOUNT OLIVE, NC, has designated the month of March as "Family Enrichment and Spiritual Growth Month." The month of special emphasis will include a special professional speaker for each Sunday at the 11 a.m. worship service. Other activities and literature will be featured and promoted among the congregation and community, with special family orientation leading to spiritual growth and healthy family relationships. On each Wednesday night during the month a family life spiritual film will be used to help enlighten and strengthen healthy church and family relationships.

Visiting speakers for the special month's emphasis and their topics are March 6: the Rev. Bobby Taylor, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, "Marriage Relationship, Child Care and Discipline"; March 13: Dr. Ellen T. Brubeck, of Mount Olive Family Medical Center, "Pertaining to Physical and Spiritual Well-being of People"; March 20: Dr. Lonnie Blizzard, vice president of Lenoir County Community College, will speak on "The Educational and Spiritual Growth of Our College Generation"; March 27, the Hon. Arnold Jones, district Judge of Lenoir, Wayne and Greene Counties, will speak on "Which Way Do We Need to Go With Crime and Healthy Culture and the Remedy?"

The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of Northeast Church, says, "From the very first planning efforts of the special emphasis month, the people seem to be taking proper concern and are looking forward to the learning experience they are going to be exposed to." The Northeast Church is located a half-mile outside of the city limits of Mount Olive, northeast of the city on Northeast Church Road.

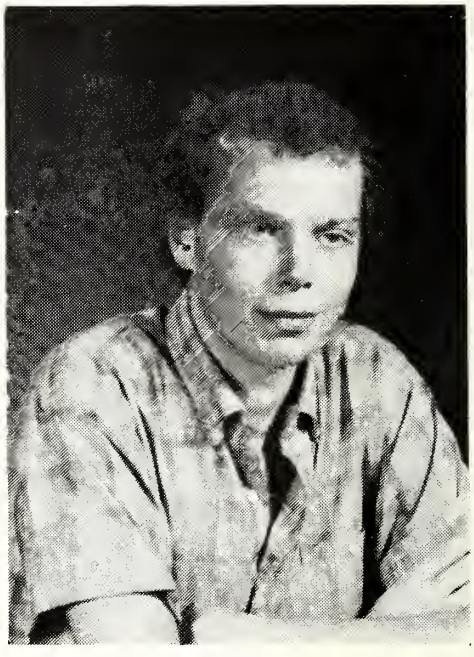
THE TAPES OF THE 1988 "Devotion Study Course" by the Rev. Wayne King are available. Sets of two one-hour tapes cost $7. Send your requests to: The Rev. Doug Skinner, P. O. Box 117, Highway 306, Arapahoe, NC 28510.

THE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE, will meet March 21, 1988, at Spring Hill Church located at 4556 Highway 70 West, Goldsboro. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. All members are urged to attend.

HOLLY SPRINGS CHURCH has just completed a Bible reading program. Over the past three years, we have read the entire Bible as a church. The pastor would assign a book or books to be read each month. A list was placed in the vestibule and members would sign as they completed each month's reading. Readers ranged from 82 to 156 each month. Average readers per month was 109. A total of 59 members read the entire Bible. The most read books were Solomon and Ecclesiastes with 156 readers, and the least read book was Jeremiah with 82 readers. It is interesting to realize that 82,031 chapters, 45,647,828 words and 1,839,207 verses were consumed by the 59 readers alone. In addition to this, were the numbers and numbers of books that were read by the other members.

We are beginning another program. Our goal in 1988 is to read the New Testament as a church. We do not boast of what we are doing, but we hope that it will encourage others to do the same.

The pastor, Dr. O. B. Jones, and the congregation invite you to come and worship with us at any of our services and special activities. We are located on the Nine Mile Road at Newport.



Clarence Sheldon Howard Jr.

CLARENCE SHELDON HOWARD JR., 17, was recently named Outstanding Youth and recognized during the annual Mount Olive Distinguished Service Award banquet. He is the son of Mrs. Hilda B. Howard.

His nominator said, "My candidate has been involved in many extracurricular activities during his high school career. These activities are cited below. These are not, however, the accomplishments that make him my choice for Youth of the Year. He has had major medical problems for the past few years. In spite of this, he has not stopped, but continued to strive for the highest.

"My candidate doesn't think of himself as a leader or as outstanding, but the courage and determination he has shown in pushing himself to excel in his school work is an example for us all to follow. His 4.0 quality point average as a senior at Southern Wayne High School helped him to be accepted at North Carolina State University for the 1988-89 school year.

"Clarence Sheldon Howard Jr.—Don—is a fine young man of outstanding character, who has gained and maintained the respect of his teachers and peers."

Howard's extracurricular activities and honors for church and school include:

—9th grade: Monogram Club; Junior Beta Club; basketball; youth group; "A" honor roll.

—10th grade: Sophomore Scholastic Society; Sunday School class treasurer; youth group; "A" honor roll.

—11th grade: National Honor Society; National Art Honor Society; youth group; marshal; "A" honor roll.

—12th grade: National Honor Society; National Art Honor Society; Who's Who Among American High School Students (*Mount Olive Tribune,* Mount Olive, NC).



The Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Martin

THE REV. AND MRS. W. A. MARTIN were honored by Smyrna (Cape Fear Conference) Church with a retirement service and luncheon on January 31.

The first Sunday in October, 1987, marked Mr. Martin's 34th anniversary as pastor of the church, located in the Meadow community between Dunn and Benson.

Several members of the church, a former member and the church choir participated in honoring their beloved pastor.

The Rev. Dewey Boling, assistant moderator of the Cape Fear Conference, represented the Conference during the service.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin were also honored by the church the first Sunday in December, one day after their 50th wedding anniversary.

"Martin tells his congregation that it was Christian love that kept him as pastor," notes Ray G. Smith, chairman of the deacon board of the church and master of ceremonies of the service.

ELM GROVE CHURCH, Ayden, will hold its spring revival April 4-8 at 7:30 each night. The Rev. Ray Williamson will be the evangelist. The pastor, Rev. Steve Hargrove, invites everyone to attend.

ARAPAHOE CHURCH wishes to announce its 4th annual Missions Emphasis Weekend, March 18-20.

We are excited about our weekend schedule:

*Friday, March 18*

7:00 p.m. a movie entitled "Nikolai"—the story of a Soviet youth and the choice he has to make between following Christ or conforming to the demands of an atheistic society.

7:45 p.m. Report on the Mexican, Indian, and Austrian mission fields by Harold Jones. There will be refreshments following.

*Saturday, March 19*

6:30 p.m. Spaghetti supper sponsored by the Men's Fellowship. Afterwards, there will be a report given by Willem and Lydia van der Plas concerning missions work in the Philippines.

*Sunday, March 20*

Morning Worship Service at 11:00 with the message given by Willem van der Plas.

Gifts for our missions work will be taken throughout the weekend. Everyone is invited to join us.

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### ATTENTION NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1988 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville, NC. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their registration fees in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money, and allows the State Treasurer to prepare the cards in advance. Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, to the following address: Mrs. Nadine Crocker, State Treasurer, Route 3, Box 280AA, Kenly, NC 27542.

If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the Convention needs your support.

### EASTERN DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention will be at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, NC, Thursday, March 24. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

The theme is "Teach Me to Care." The Rev. K. David Hines, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, will be the morning speaker.

The church is located on Highway 306 in Arapahoe. All Eastern District Woman's Auxiliaries are urged to represent, and to bring their A-1 Charts.

### ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for, your district convention. The dues are 40¢ per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep 20¢ and send 20¢ to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to count on you.

Mrs. Nadine Crocker
*State Treasurer*

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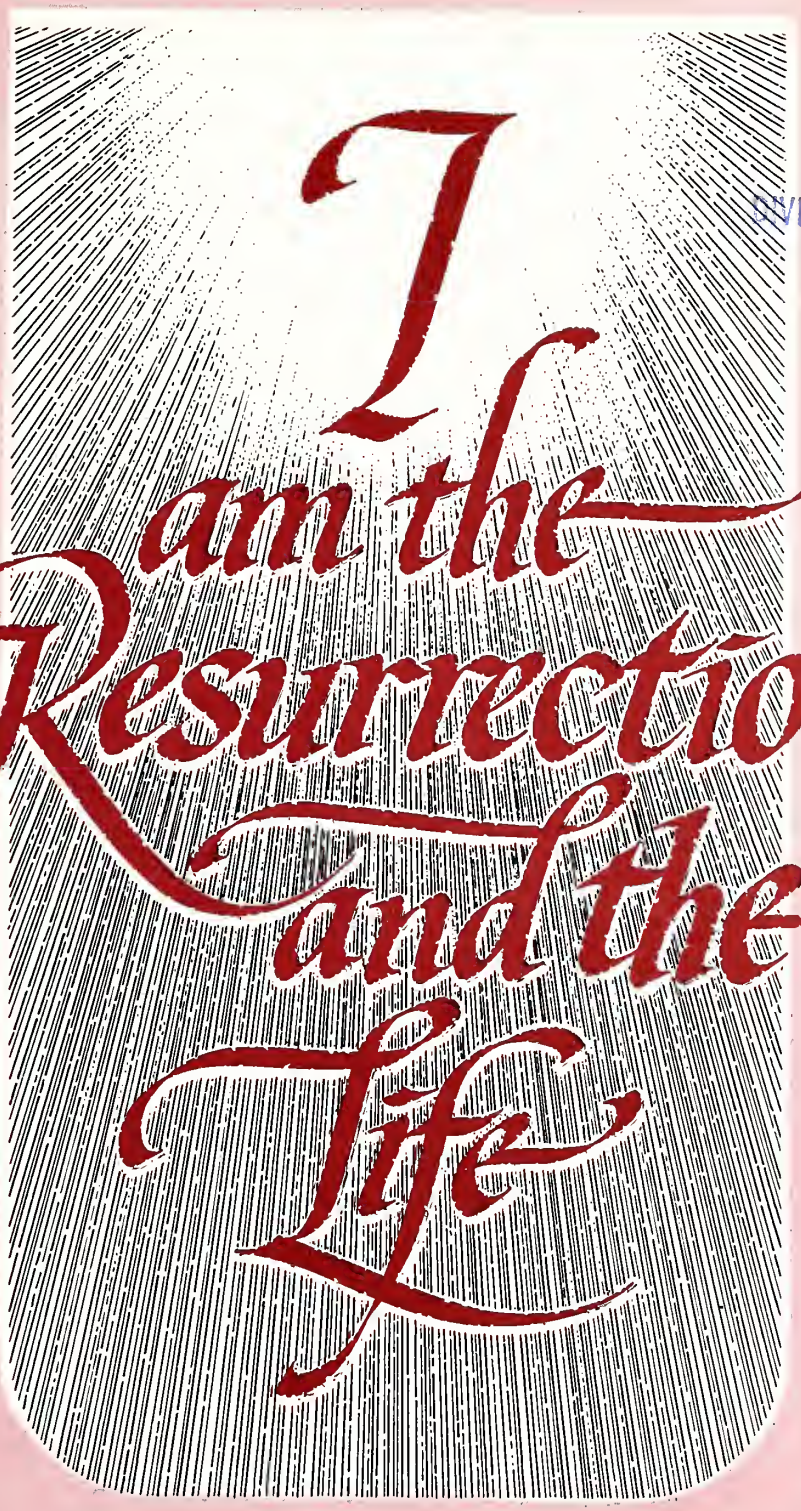
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# The Free Will Baptist

APRIL, 1988

The Free Will
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April 1988
Vol. 103, No. 4

3 Editorial

4 The Price He Paid

5 Once Upon a Time

6 Pilgrimage to Gethsemane

7 The Forgotten Command

10 The Christian Teacher

12 For Parents and Other Human Beings

14 Youth Focus

15 Children's Corner

17 Ministry Focus

18 Ministries Update

31 News Briefs

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# RECONCILED

When driving to work the other day, the words of a song playing on the radio seemed to take hold of my very being. In essence, the lyricist explained that you and I . . . "the man in the mirror" . . . have a lot to do with the world being as it is. We cannot pass the blame on, for we are at fault.

As I pondered the words of the song over and over again, I became rather angry. It bothers me tremendously that we had rather argue among ourselves . . . and we had . . . than try to do what we have been called to do.

It is time that we play by a different set of rules, one that substitutes gentleness for cruelty, and patience for unbridled frustration. We have become mired down by the habit of making accusations, fixing blame on others and name calling. We are slow to recognize the destructiveness of our own anger and slower still to let it go. Many are fiercely opinionated, feeling the need to always win. Yes, we have perfected arguing to a highly, destructive art form. And this must cease.

It is time that we begin to practice authentic, biblical mercy, for mercy deepens the level of communication and lessens the degree of tension. It plays an instrumental role in resolving conflicts that naturally arise.

> The quality of mercy is not strained,
> It droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven,
> Upon the place beneath; it is twice blessed;
> It blesseth him that gives and him that takes . . .
> It is an attribute to God himself.
>
> —Shakespeare

Mercy depends on the ability to forgive. This is perhaps the single most important aspect of mercy, for without forgiveness mercy cannot exist. Before we are able to feel compassion or alleviate discord, we have to recognize God's unconditional forgiveness of our sins and adopt the same attitudes. (That surely does away with feeling "holier than thou," doesn't?)

In order to forgive, we must let go of our feelings of painful bitterness and antagonism. We must cut out our feelings of self-pride that prevent us from forgiving. Pride remembers the hurts and scorn; forgiveness allows us to forget—perhaps not the event—but the pain. (If it is left to fester, it can destroy.)

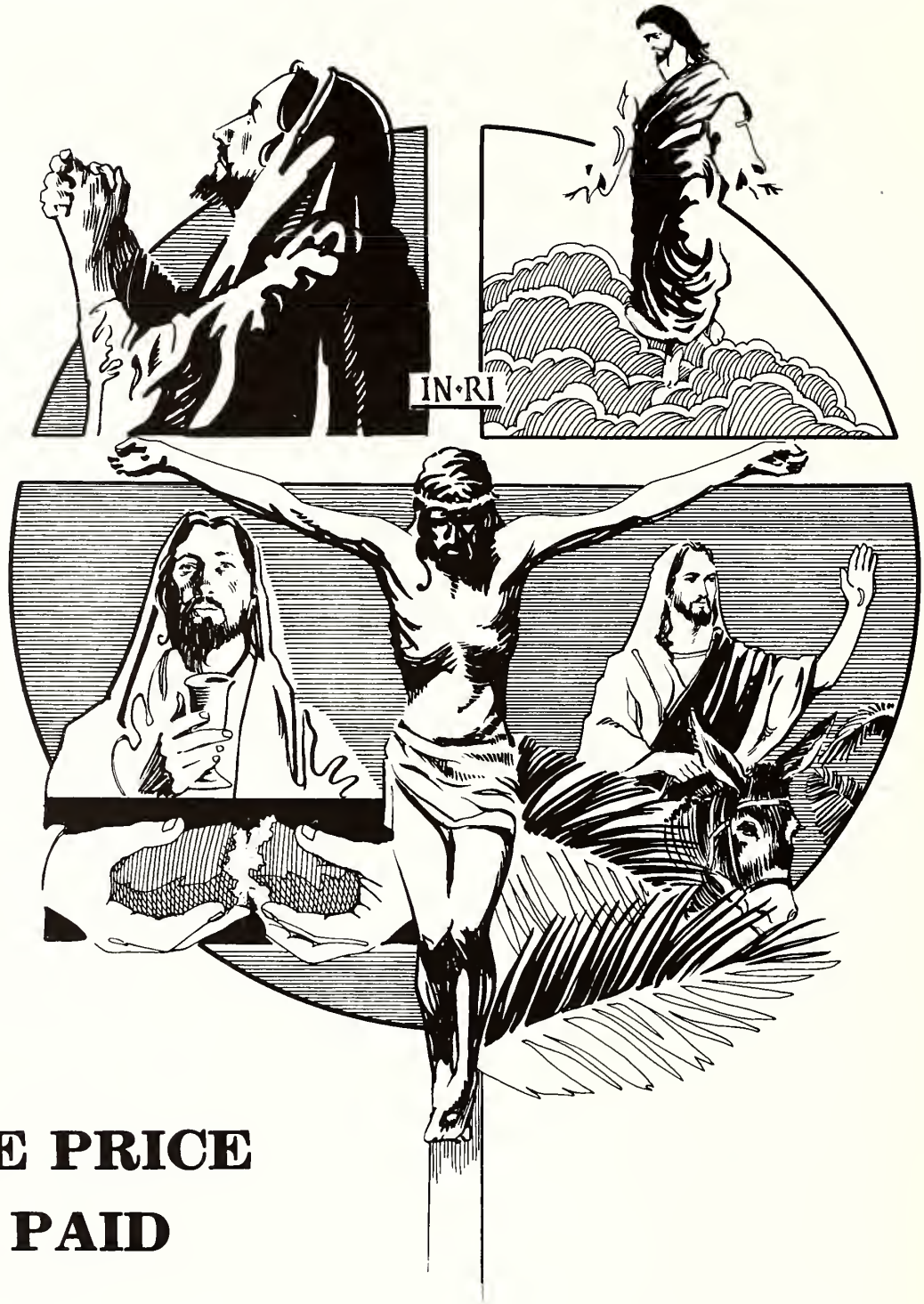
To forgiveness, we must add forbearance. While this term implies a heartfelt pardoning of those who have wronged us, it suggests more. Forbearance calls for us to accept others, complete with their failings, annoying habits and irritating mannerisms. To do so, we have to rise above the tendency to find fault with others. What *real* difference does it make that someone else does not do *exactly* as we want him or her to do? We leave little room for a loving tolerance when we pick at each others foibles.

Silence grows naturally out of forbearance when we learn to tolerate others, we refrain from commenting on their habits and behaviors in a negative and destructive manner. Yet silence means more than stilling our tongues when we feel like speaking evil . . . we must silence our judgmental thoughts as well. Each time we think of another person critically, we need to consciously isolate that thought. We should replace it with one imbued with gracious understanding of the cause for his or her faults. Through the use of judicious rather than judgmental silence, we are enabled to overcome our desire to dominate and control; we also learn to listen, a much unpracticed art. When we are silently listening, we allow others to exist as God made them rather than how we wish them to be. *It isn't our place to judge and condemn others for not conforming to the image of what we assume to be godly.*

Forgiving others, tolerating their faults, and silencing our judgmental tongues and hearts are merciful responses in most situations. There are times, however, when our best response, the best way for us to show mercy, calls for us to confront an individual about a bad habit, some hidden resentment or failing. Looking to Jesus as our teacher, we find that a merciful confrontation begins with a right attitude. Before we dare to remove the speck of dust in someone else's eye we need to dislodge the log in our own. Do we seek confrontation out of a deeply rooted concern for the other person's welfare? Or do we confront out of our own impatience, irritation and stubborn pridefulness? Do we feel some self-serving need to criticize? It is important that we correct with love.

Mercy often needs the cutting edge of confrontation, for it brings about change effectively—if done in the right attitude.

Oh, that we were merciful people. I can't help but believe such spiritual discipline would transform our lives. "The man in the mirror" would look a lot more like his Father.




# THE PRICE HE PAID

*by E. Ruth Glover*

He laid aside His kingly robe,
His sceptre and His crown,
He wrapped Himself in swaddling clothes
And laid Him weakly down.

Creator of mankind, He came
Into a mother's care;
He rested Him upon her breast,
And took His nurture there.

He stepped from shining streets of gold
And halls of royalty.
To barefoot walk the painful ways
Of man's indignity.

And when the sinless, holy One
Saw my debauchery,
He stretched Him on a cross, a lamb,
And bled and died, for me.

# Once upon a time . . .




# an Alleluia!

*by Victor Walter*

**Once upon a time** I took our beloved and elderly French poodle to be put to sleep. She was standing nuzzling my hand when the vet injected her. In ten seconds flat, she fell to the floor without another breath or wiggle.

Such is the power of man to bring death to that which lives. In fact, in about the same number of seconds, man has proved that he can deal death to an entire city, as the whine of a high altitude bomber fades out into the Pacific from which it came.

Such is the death giving power of man we live with; and we understand it.

**Once upon a time** God sent forth His Son. He planted His feet in that Judean dust; His teachings in those Judean hearts; His love on that Judean hill that seemed a skull to those first century onlookers.

In even fewer seconds than a vet or a bombardier can render a dog or thousands lifeless, He could render the still and stinking dead vibrantly living. Ask the widow of Nain's son; ask Jairus' little girl; ask Lazarus; ask those routed out of their Jerusalem tombs that first Good Friday; ask the bewildered platoon of guards; ask those breathlessly astonished Apostles.

Such is that Son's power to deal life. By God's grace we live with it, but we don't understand it.

**Once upon** papyrus, parchment and paper He ordered it promised by prophet and apostle that every prayer in His name is answered; that all battles fought in His cause are victories; that everything committed to Him will be kept; that every foe will be vanquished; that every knee will bow; that every child trained up will not depart; that the gates of Hell will not prevail against His Church; that all tears will be wiped away; that joy will come in the morning, and that all that are in their graves will hear His voice and will come forth.

Such is His transforming power, and the Resurrection is His reminder that He does as He says. By grace we know it, but we don't understand it.

**Once** and that right soon, He will come again and all this, and more, will be done and evident. We may cry out with Tertullian, "I believe because it is absurd!" or with that foot-of-the-Mount of Transfiguration father of so long ago, "I believe, Lord, help Thou my unbelief!"

But can we not still shout a resounding "Alleluia!"? "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

—Reprinted from *Evangelical Beacon*

# Pilgrimage to Gethsemane

*by John Wiens*

Gethsemane is among those holiest of grounds to be found in the terrain of the spirit. But like all such holy ground, it does not reveal its treasures to the hurried passerby or casual observer. That happens only to those who take the time to go deeper into the garden with their Lord. If you would like to take an unforgettable pilgrimage into this sacred place, read slowly, thoughtfully, and with a meditative spirit Mark 14:32-42.

Here we focus on just one of the treasures of insight which a pilgrimage into Gethsemane yields: it often takes a painful aloneness to bring us to the most assured experience of the divine presence.

Jesus took with Him into that garden the three disciples with whom He was closest. In His crisis, He freely reached out for their valued support. Nonetheless, there soon came a point at which He had to leave them behind and proceed "a little farther" into His garden of decision alone. Alone He had to decide whether to slip away under the cover of night, or to continue His careful allegiance to the Father's will, regardless of cost! The old spiritual is right: "Jesus walked this lonesome valley. He had to walk it by Himself."

Jesus' aloneness moved into a stage of deep struggle where it must have felt like absolute abandonment. His three supposedly supportive disciples slept. Reflecting His desperate soul crisis, Jesus moved back and forth between the place where the disciples were and the place of aloneness, reaching out alternatively for human support and divine help. He did so three times, pleading with His disciples to "watch and pray" with Him, and imploring His Heavenly Father ". . . remove this cup from Me." But for all His pleading, the disciples slept on, and for all His praying, Heaven remained silent.

But then something happened inside Jesus' soul. And the evidence that it happened is seen first and foremost in the contrasting spirit with which our Lord faced the horrors that followed. With the confidence of one who knows the purpose of God for His life, and with a sense of a divine presence with Him to see Him through, Jesus faced the worst, the mocking trial and the Cross, composed and in complete self-control. What happened between Gethsemane's agonizing aloneness and Jesus' arrest that gave Him such assurance? Luke's Gospel says: "And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him" (Luke 22:43).

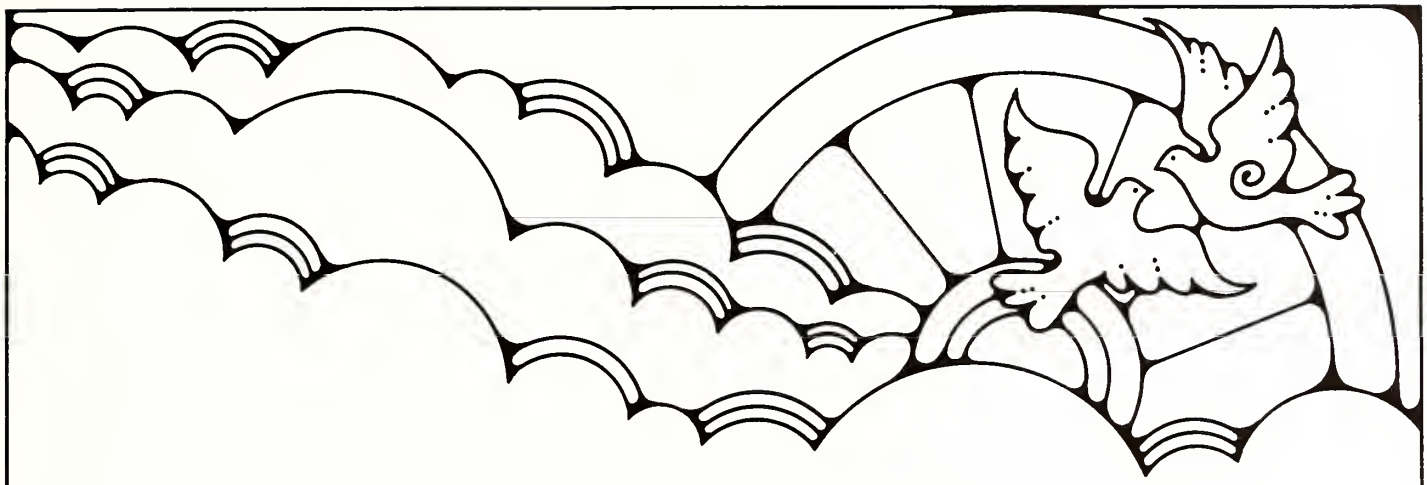
All of us have decisions which must be faced in the context of a painful aloneness: how to relate, whom to marry, where to work and at what, how to die, and so on. We also face tragedies like the loss of a job, the breakup of a marriage, and the sickness or death of a loved one, many of which must similarly be faced alone. But the one who in his or her garden aloneness resists the urge to run, to panic or despair—who perseveres, rather, in prayer to God—that one's "dark night of the soul" will also in time be broken by the appearance of the strengthening angel.

Jesus' prayer was, "Remove this cup from me." Heaven's answer was not to remove the cup but to provide the strength to drink it.

This experience of strength coming from outside ourselves—strength to bear the unbearable—provides the human spirit one of the strongest assurances possible of divine presence and power. Let us not, therefore, run from the difficult encounters that lead to it, lonely as they may seem at times. For the Lord God knows His own, and we have His sovereign promise not only to be with us to the end but to lead us into His kingdom as well.

—Reprinted from *Covenant Companion.*

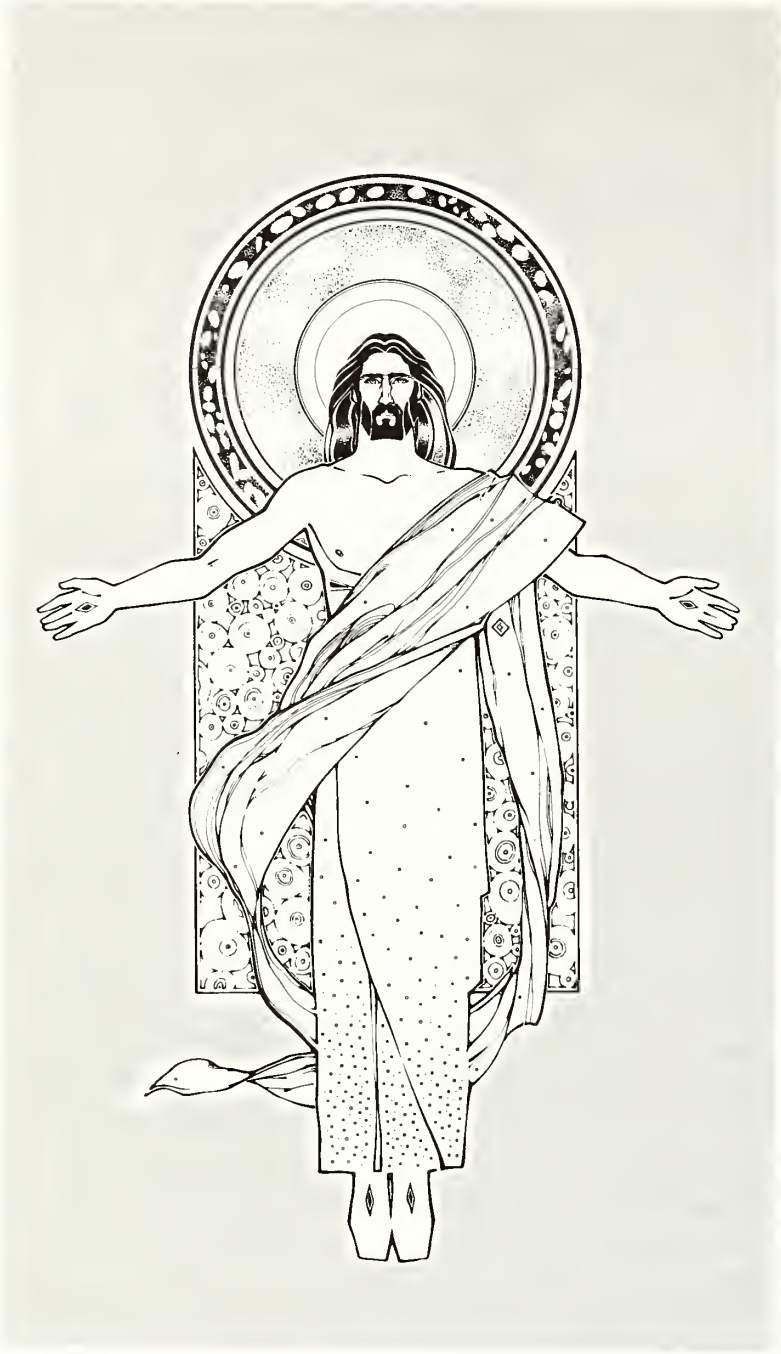




# SELF-DENIAL: THE FORGOTTEN COMMAND

*by James R. Newby*

One of the most meaningful messages I have ever heard Elton Trueblood share was on the topic, "Learn to Love the Difficult." It was delivered before an audience of 500 students—an interesting choice of topic for students of the 80's, most of whom having been reared in a society where comfort, pleasure, and freedom from pain and difficulty are the operating norms. In his clear and prophetic way Elton challenged the contemporary mood of "getting by" with as little as possible, and the national preoccupation of searching for a personal comfort zone, and asked them to consider the possibility of finding personal spiritual fulfillment in the difficult. His examples were far-ranging, from the study of the intellectual and spiritual giants, to the challenge of learning a second or third language, to the practice of a personal discipline of regular Scripture reading and prayer. The important point he made was that discipline is required if any growth—spiritual, mental or physical, is to take place.



Learning to love the difficult is an idea which is closely identified with one of the most striking paradoxes of the human condition: the discovery that *true self-fulfillment can come only through self-denial.*

This is an alien concept in a society where the "you can have it all" credit card mentality reigns supreme. With an ever increasing zeal we are confronted with options of more and more, when what we really need is less and less. The *difficult* in a complex, often gluttonous consumer culture such as ours, is *simplification.*

In the past few years I have become intrigued with the idea of self-denial through the spiritual discipline of fasting. Perhaps it is because I know what it feels like to deny myself food, having dieted to lose over 40 pounds! During this particular time of self-imposed exile from the large portions of sweets and starches that my body was used to consuming, I was not only losing weight, but I was feeling more spiritually fit as well. Although my first concern was to shed some excess pounds, I did, indeed, feel "cleansed" and closer to God because I was not constantly catering to the pangs of hunger emanating from the physical self.

In twentieth century America the idea of fasting from food in order to grow spiritually seems archaic. The focus on food in our society, perpetuated by the very powerful food industry, has made the concept of fasting seem out-dated. If there is to be a revival of interest in recovering the spiritual discipline of fasting from food in order to grow spiritually, it is important to know just how great the forces of opposition are—from the "pitch-in" dinners at our churches, to the "McD.L.T.'s" running across our T.V. screen, tantalizing our tastebuds through visual manipulation.

My concern, however, is not just to raise the issue of fasting from food as a "love of the difficult" spiritual discipline, but fasting from anything or any attitude that tends to get in the way of a more complete or closer relationship with God. I was first introduced to the idea of "fasting twentieth century style" by Richard Foster when he spoke during one of the sessions of an Annual Yokefellow Conference. His point was that in our time the ancient spiritual discipline of fasting needs to be *revived,* and to become *enlarged* beyond just the idea of fasting from food. The question to be asked is: "What are the outward things and inner attitudes that tend to separate us from a closer relationship with God?" Each person will have his or her own list, but there are some general problems to which we can all relate.

*The Media.* We live in an age of information. We know more about what is happening in the world than we have ever known. We even have a 24-hour news channel to keep us informed on every late breaking story. The great success of the new movie "Broadcast News" shows our fascination with the information media. The T.V. anchormen are the high priests of this information cult, and they are able to keep their audience by making *the news* an entertainment event that will keep

persons coming back for more. It is addictive: the more we know, the more we want to know. What we need to ask is: "Is it really worth knowing?"

The great Quaker of an earlier generation, Rufus Jones, would read his newspaper standing up, because he knew that if he would sit down he would spend too much time reading it. He wanted to use his sitting down time for more important and more difficult reading. We can all be encouraged by this example, and learn to fast from so much trivial information that gets in the way of the more important information that will help us grow spiritually.

*The Telephone.* This little device can cause no end of spiritual difficulty. Elton Trueblood has a little switch in his study where he can "turn off" the ringing of the phone when he wants to read, study, pray or just be left alone. He knows what many are still learning, that the telephone is both a curse and a blessing which needs to be controlled, and not left alone to be the controller.

*Loud Music.* One of the most singular addictions of our age is rock music. We are bombarded with it. Young people are especially attracted to it, and the louder the better. It screams at you from the stereo player at home, through the stereo radio of your automobile, and is even found "rocking" your television set by way of non-stop "music video."

In his best selling book, *The Closing of the American Mind,* Allan Bloom writes about today's youth and their preoccupation with rock music: "Today a very large proportion of young people between the ages of ten and twenty live for music. It is their passion; nothing else excites them as it does; they cannot take seriously anything alien to music. When they are in school and with their families, they are longing to plug themselves back into their music." (See Allan Bloom, *The Closing of the American Mind,* page 68.)

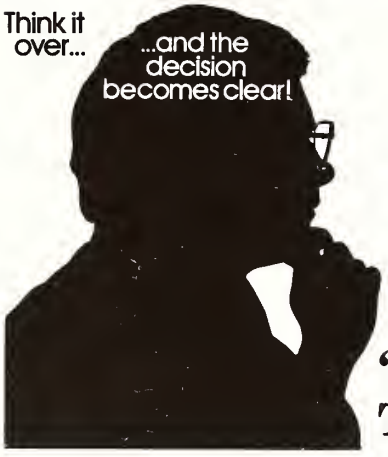
Fasting from loud music and learning to appreciate the beauty of silence, may be one of the most difficult things that this generation does . . . if it does. Only then will the "still small voice" of God be heard.

Outward intruders on our spiritual lives such as the media, the telephone, and loud music are one type of barrier to a deeper spiritual life. Another type of intruder is *inward.* These intruders are attitudes or behavioral patterns that separate us from God. Once again, each one will have his or her own list, but there are some common problems.

*Criticism.* We live in a critical time, where we are overly critical of ourselves and others. Criticism separates us from a closer relationship with God and one another. Of course, there is positive criticism and negative criticism. Positive criticism is best understood as a means to help a person. When it is done out of a sincere loving concern, it can be most helpful. Unfortunately, much negative criticism is expressed under the guise of positive criticism, and is meant to "tear down" not "build up." It often seems so natural to attack critically a colleague or family member that it is done before we realize what we have done. The difficult, self-denying path is to fast from criticism of one another, and, instead, to concentrate on encouraging one another.

*Worldly Recognition.* The hunger for worldly recognition emanates from a negative sense of pride. It seems odd that so many who claim to follow Christ, the quintessence of the spiritual life, should be so concerned with acceptance by the standards of the world. This is a special concern for pastors who are called to serve the One who called Himself the Servant. Worldly recognition should not be a part of the reason why one goes into the ministry. Fully understanding the human need to be affirmed, such recognition should come from within the community of faith, not expected because of a "Rev." or "Dr." in front of one's name.

There are, of course, many other things and attitudes that get in the way of a closer relationship with God. A good experience would be for your Sunday School class or small study group to discuss the idea of "learning to love the difficult," and "fasting 20th century style," and see how each one can encourage another through the process. An important thing to realize is that learning to love the difficult and fasting from anything or any attitude which has become entrenched in one's life is not easy. We know from the spiritual giants, however, that the rewards of such a love of the difficult and fasting will be great. By the removal of each barrier to greater spiritual growth we will be brought into a closer relationship with God, which will bring us into a better understanding of ourselves and others. When this occurs, we can only be grateful.




# "TEACHER, TRAIN THYSELF!"

*by Bass Mitchell*

It's the responsibility of the church to provide training opportunities and resources for teachers. Hopefully your church does this and you take advantage of them. Give thanks that your church takes teaching so seriously that training is offered.

But in the final analysis, your training for the teaching ministry of the church is really up to you! Even if your church provides training resources and events, you have to have the motivation and dedication to make use of them. You must take the initiative to get the kind of training you know you need. In other words, take responsibility for your own training!

But how can you do this? And just what kind of training do you need?

Teachers need training in at least four basic areas. These will be identified and explained below, along with some recommended resources for each.

### The Bible

The Bible is the source book of our teaching. Each lesson we teach is based to some degree on the Scriptures. So it's imperative that teachers know what the Bible is and how to go about studying it.

*Introducing the Bible* and *How Our Bible Came to Us* are two excellent resources for learning about what the Bible is and how it came to be. The first one is a book by William Barclay. The second resource is a five-part filmstrip series from the American Bible Society.

I have found the following books helpful in understanding and studying the Bible: *How to Study the Bible,* by Olin Binkley; *Understanding the Bible,* by John R. Stott; *The Making of the Bible,* by William Barclay; *These Things Are Written,* by James Efird; *The Bible: How to Understand and Teach It,* by D. P. Brooks.

It's further recommended that you take introductory courses on the Old Testament and the New Testament, or at least read an introduction to each one. I have found the following ones very readable and valuable reference resources: *Understanding the Old Testament,* by Bernard Anderson (be sure to get the latest edition); *A History of Israel,* by John Bright; *New Testament Writings,* by James Efird; *The New Testament,* by Bruce Metzger.

You should also possess and be able to use basic Bible study resources. These include the following: a Bible dictionary, commentaries, a concordance, a Bible atlas, and several translations of the Bible.

### Age Group

It's important for you to understand the age group you teach. You need to learn about how they grow. How do they learn? What are their common needs, concerns, problems, and life tasks? This is so important because you must know your students if your teaching and your teaching methods are to be relevant for them.

Take a moment to think about the persons you teach. Get out a sheet of paper and answer the questions above in reference to your class members.

Here are some resources I've found helpful in understanding the various age groups. *Christian Child Development,* by Iris Cully (from birth through adolescence); *Understanding Today's Preschoolers,* by C. Sybil Waldrop; *Understanding Today's Children,* by Max Price; *Understanding Today's Youth,* by Daniel Aleshire; *The Five Cries of Youth,* by Merton Strommen; *Understanding Today's Adults,* by Lucien Coleman.

There are many such books coming out every year. Check your local Christian bookstore and see what they have. It may well be that the educational ministries in your denomination provide such resources.

I took a course on developmental psychology in college. Also, there were courses on child, youth, and adult education offered in seminary. I would recommend that you take such courses if at all possible.

You see, it's not enough just to know the Bible and how to study it. You also need to know your students so well that you can see where the Bible touches their lives.

### Teaching

Knowledge of the Bible and of your students—these are essentials. But there's more required—how to bring the Bible and your students together in such

a way that they come to hear God's Word for them. In other words, you need to know and be able to use a variety of teaching methods, especially those best suited for the age group you teach.

One of the best ways to learn how to teach is to observe and work with experienced teachers. This is required for those who are preparing to teach in the public school system. It's not a bad idea for all those who wish to teach in the church. Perhaps there's some way you could be an assistant teacher in your church and team teach with an experienced teacher for a year.

There's a tremendous amount of resources in the area of how to teach. There are books, magazines, filmstrips, and even videos available. Let me share a few that I've found useful.

Judson Press has recently published a series of books entitled, *Teaching and Learning With Young Children, Elementary Children, and Older Elementary Children.* These are short books but they contain some very helpful information on teaching these age groups.

The following books are also good: *Teaching Preschoolers,* by Gail Linam; *How to Guide Children,* by Louise Caldwell; *Exploring the Bible With Children,* by Dorothy Furnish; *Creative Teaching in the Church,* by Morrison and Foster; *How to Guide Youth,* by Ann Sullivan; *How to Guide Adults,* by Polly Cooper; *Learning Is Change,* by Martha Leypoldt; *40 Ways to Teach in Groups,* by Martha Leypoldt; *Teaching as Jesus Taught,* by Georgianna Summers; *Teaching for Results,* by Findley Edge; *Basic Teacher Skills,* by Richard Rusbuldt.

Also check out the many volumes in the GRIGGS EDUCATIONAL SERIES. They are excellent. For example, *Creative Activities in Christian Education,* by Patricia Griggs, is for teachers of children. It has many practical teaching activities you can use immediately.

I subscribe to several teaching magazines. This helps keep me up-to-date on what's going on in teaching and also provides many creative teaching ideas. Some of my favorite publications are: *Teacher in the Church School Today; Baptist Leader; Key to Christian Education; Parish Teacher;* and *Sunday School Counselor.*

An outstanding video on teaching children is *Learning to Teach,* put out by Concordia. It comes with handouts and can be used in independent or group study settings.

There's not a great deal of video material available yet on learning how to teach. However, it's just a matter of time before this is changed. So be on the lookout for them.

**Theology**

Another area in which you can train yourself is in basic Christian beliefs or theology. This involves learning more about what we believe as Christians and why we believe as we do. For example, what do we believe about Christ? The church? The sacraments? The Holy Spirit? Life after death?

You see, every lesson you teach is a theology lesson. It deals with some aspect of our beliefs about God and our relationship with God. You can't escape being theological. You are a theologian whether you like it or not! Is your theology sound? Is it really Christian? These are the important questions.

There are some excellent resources available to help you. Let me share some I've found especially helpful.

*Understanding the Christian Faith,* by Georgia Harkness; *The Protestant Faith,* by George Forell; *Basic Christian Teachings,* by Rolf Aaseng; *Christian Doctrine,* by Shirley C. Gutherie Jr.; *Christian Doctrine,* J. S. Whale; *Basic Christianity,* John R. W. Stott; *The Faith of Our Fathers,* by David A. Redding.

I'd also suggest that you get a handbook or dictionary of Christian theology as a reference aid. There are a variety available. I've found, *Handbook of Christian Theology,* edited by Marvin Halverson, to be a helpful resource.

You could ask your pastor for some suggestions in this area. Also, your pastor might be open to leading some classes on basic Christian doctrines.

Don't think that you have to read all these things and know everything mentioned above before next Sunday! You don't! Look over those four areas again—how to study the Bible, understanding your age group, basic teaching skills, and Christian theology. You are stronger in some than in others. Select the area in which you feel you need the most improvement. Use the resources suggested and any others at your disposal to grow in that area. Then pick another area and do the same thing.

I'm very systematic about this. One week I'll read in the biblical area. The next week I may read a book or articles in understanding the age group I teach. The third week I'll attend a workshop on creative teaching methods, and the fourth week I may read a book on a particular Christian doctrine. I plan all of this ahead of time.

"Wow! There's sure a lot to learn." Is that what you've been thinking? You're right! But you see, an important part of teaching is that you, as a teacher, keep learning and growing in all these ways. When you are growing, you can feel confident that your students will be too!

# Preventing the Sunday Family Fiasco

*Once Every Seven Days, It's Sunday Morning*

*by David Beckwith*

The chance of things going haywire on a Sunday morning are at least seven times greater than on any other morning of the week. Dead car batteries, hot water that is cold, milk that is sour, wet underwear, clogged toilets, stuck zippers, stained suits, cologne mistaken for mouthwash, lost Bibles, curling irons that hiss, nylons that run, sick puppies, power failures, touchy tempers, grumpy attitudes, and daylight-saving time. Thieves break in on Saturday nights just to steal one of a nicely matched pair of socks.

I chuckle at my childhood memories. We lived only one block from church, but it took three and a half hours, 97 gallons of water, and three cars to move eight Beckwiths from their beds, through the shower, and to the front door of the church. Moving the Children of Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land was a piece of cake in comparison.

To begin with, Sunday mornings were marred by a notable family tradition, a siesta soak in the tub. Leisurely draw the bath water, lock the door to the only bathroom in the house, and soak while reading the jokes in *Reader's Digest* or clipping your nails. How the bathroom door survived the brutal beatings I will never know. Tempers flared at the thug in the tub.

"Aren't you done in there yet? Come on, open up?"

"Hurry up! Church is going to dismiss any minute now."

"Do you want dinner served in there?"

Even telegrams from the White House were ignored.

Church started at 9:45. A Beckwith normally arrived every 10 or 15 minutes between 9:30 and 10:30. Nice schedule for an airline terminal, but not a church.

Let us sharpen the focus on the Sunday family fiasco. What really is happening?

First, God is not honored. Attitudes for proper worship are formed in advance. Isaiah spoke of those who worshiped the Lord with their lips while their hearts were far from God (Isaiah 29:13). It is next to impossible to worship God with the latest family feud still on your mind.

Second, God's Spirit is hindered. Enthusiastic song leaders grow discouraged trying to lead people who are still steaming over cross words fired 15 minutes ago. My family's late arrival was discourteous and disrupted the service.

Third, hypocrisy is promoted—harsh words one moment followed by blessing God the next. "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be" (James 3:10).

So what can be done to arrive for church on time with a minimum of frustration? Have the kids sleep in the car? Camp out in the church parking lot? Here are some ideas that may help.

*Call a family conference to discuss the problem and discover solutions.* Allow each person to explain his or her Sunday frustrations and offer suggestions, but do not allow accusations to fly: "Yes, but you are always . . . ." Write the plan down.

*Guard Saturday night functions.* Saturday nights are the prelude to a chaotic Sunday morning. Plan to get to bed early. "Early to bed, early to rise, makes Sundays a pleasant surprise."

*Plan ahead.* It was not raining when Noah built the ark. Set out clothes, shoes, socks, diaper bags, strollers, and Bibles ahead of time. Set the Sunday breakfast table on Saturday night. If sufficient hot water is a problem, schedule some family members for Saturday night baths.

*Dad, help Mom get the kids ready and breakfast prepared.* This is particularly important when the children are small. She will love you for it.

*Start the day with some Christian music.* It really makes a difference.

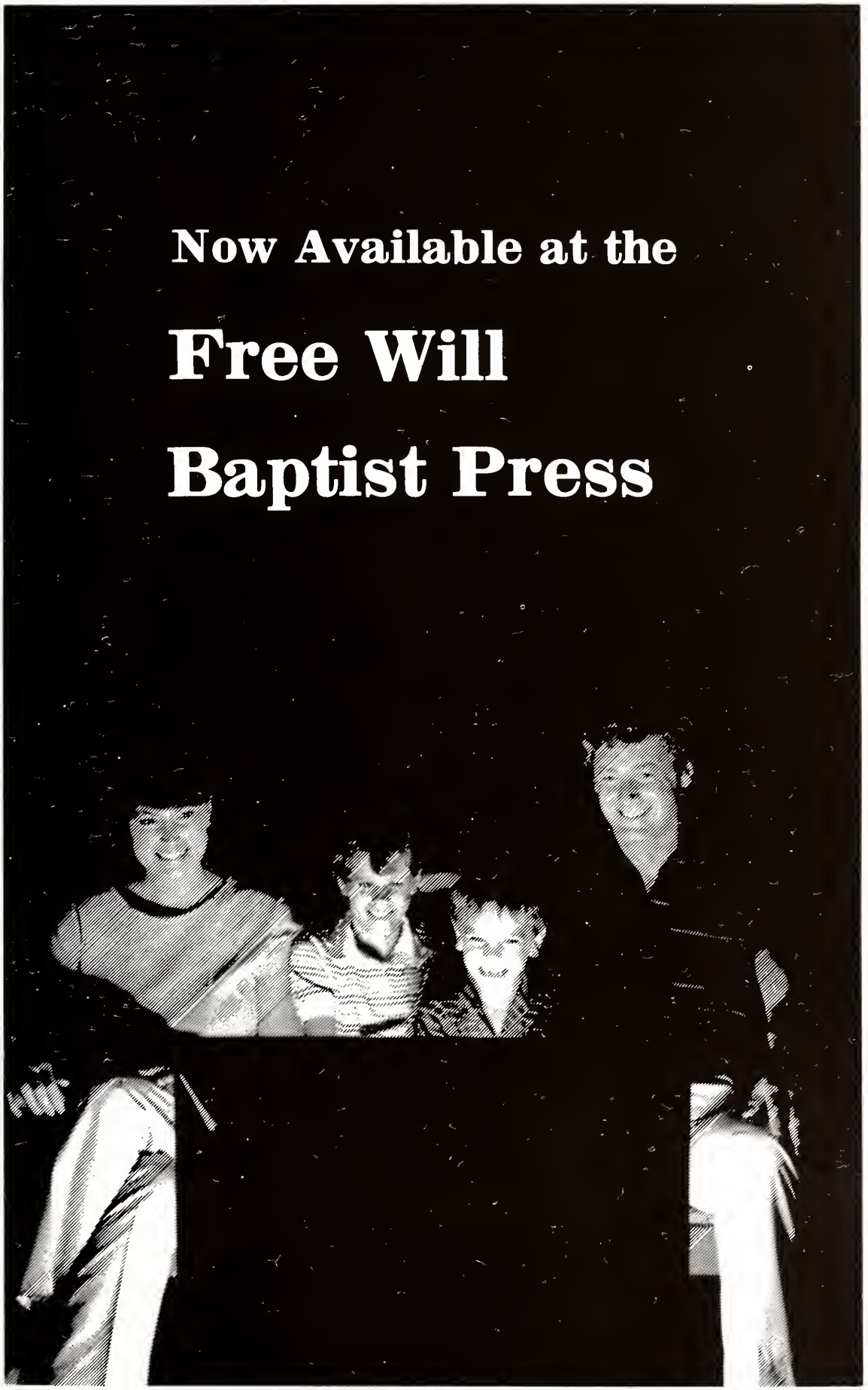
*Set a departure time that does not require split-second timing and race-car driving.* Plan to arrive five to ten minutes early. At our home, we set a departure time five minutes prior to the time we must leave. Anyone not in the car five minutes after scheduled departure time does the dishes for the next meal. So far, Dad has done the dishes more often than anyone else.

*Expect the unexpected.* Satan will do his utmost to hinder your worship of God.

*Reaffirm your commitment to fellowship with God's people.* "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

*When you arrive for church early, spend those moments in prayer and reading your Bible.* Ask God to speak to you. He will!

I should add, if you find yourself running late on a Sunday, do not stay away. Just quietly slip in, smile at the usher, and hold up your watch and shake it. He will understand. We have all been there.




**FOCUS ON THE FAMILY**, by Dr. James C. Dobson, helps you face and tackle the problems you think are only happening in your family! This series has been seen in over 30,000 churches by by some 15 million people.

1. **The Strong-Wiiied Child**—Childish irresponsibility vs. willful defiance. Understanding your guilt when discipling your child. 63 minutes.
2. **Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit**—How to associate behavior with consequences. When to let go of your child and how. 60 minutes.
3. **Christian Fathering**—If America survives, it will be because fathers begin to put their families at the highest level of priority. 61 minutes.
4. **Preparing for Adolesence: The Origin of Self-Doubt**—The secrets of self-esteem. 50 minutes
5. **Preparing for Adoiescence: Peer Pressure and Sexuaiity**—Physical changes, sexual development. 48 minutes
6. **What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women**—Dr. Dobson discusses the principles of a secure, healthy marriage as well as some common difficulties. He deals especially with women's struggles with depression and low self-esteem and couples' problems with money and romance. 49 minutes
7. **What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women, Part II.** 34 minutes.

**Rental:** $4 per night; $15 a week.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY, MAY 13**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5:00 | P.M. | Registration—College Hall |
| 6:00 | P.M. | Supper—New Campus |
| 5:00—6:00 | P.M. | Registration of Arts and Crafts —College Hall, Classroom B |
| 6:30 | P.M. | Practice for Talent Show—College Hall (Auditorium Open Only to Talent Show Participants, 6:30—7:45 p.m.) |

**SATURDAY, MAY 14**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:30 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 8:30 | A.M. | Registration at College Hall for Those Not Yet Registered |
| 9:00—10:00 | A.M. | Business Session—College Hall |
| 1:00 | P.M. | Registration for Those Not Yet Registered—College Hall |
| 1:30 | P.M. | Afternoon Business Session—College Hall |

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 10:00 | A.M. | Morning Worship—Rodgers Chapel |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Cost of meals provided by Mount Olive College Cafeteria will be $2, breakfast; and $3, lunch and supper.

Cost of lodging overnight will be $6 per person per night.

Guests must bring their own pillows, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook and pencil, and casual clothes for the weekend.

The Free Will Baptist Press and Mount Olive College bookstores will be open on Saturday.

Rooms will be assigned in order as registration forms are received (first received, first served).

Money for lodging should be sent with a $20 registration fee (per church) by May 1, 1988.

Meal tickets will be sold at College Hall at time of registration.

No refunds.

No candy, gum, etc. may be used in campaigning.

No skateboards, please!

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Church _____

Address _____

_____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at the Convention (at least one adult male and one adult female; and they must be supervised at all times!):

_____

Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight:

| | Total | x $6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Friday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Males (13 and up) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Females (12 and under) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Females (13 and up) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| **Saturday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Males (13 and up) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Females (12 and under) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Females (13 and up) | ____ | ____ | ____ |
| Registration fee (per church) | | | $20.00 |

Total amount enclosed _____

Total number of youth and adults eating meals provided by MOC cafeteria.

| | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|
| Breakfast | * | ____ | ____ |
| Lunch | ____ | ____ | * |
| Supper | ____ | ____ | * |

*No meals served at this time

Meal tickets sold at College Hall on Friday, 5:00 P.M.

Registration forms, along with lodging money and registration fee, should be sent to:

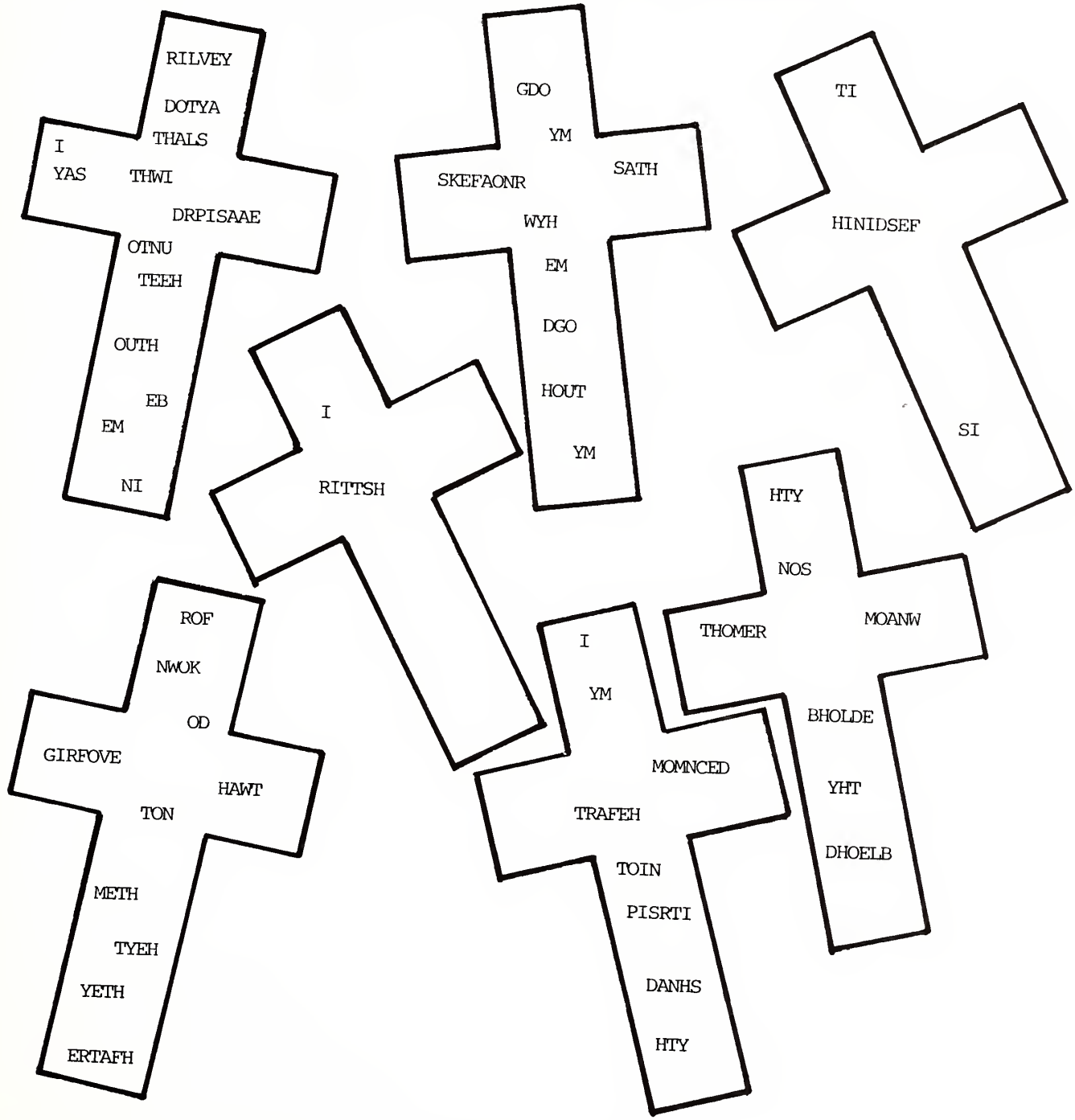
Wallie Hargrove
Route 3, Box 294
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-3534

# FAMOUS LAST WORDS

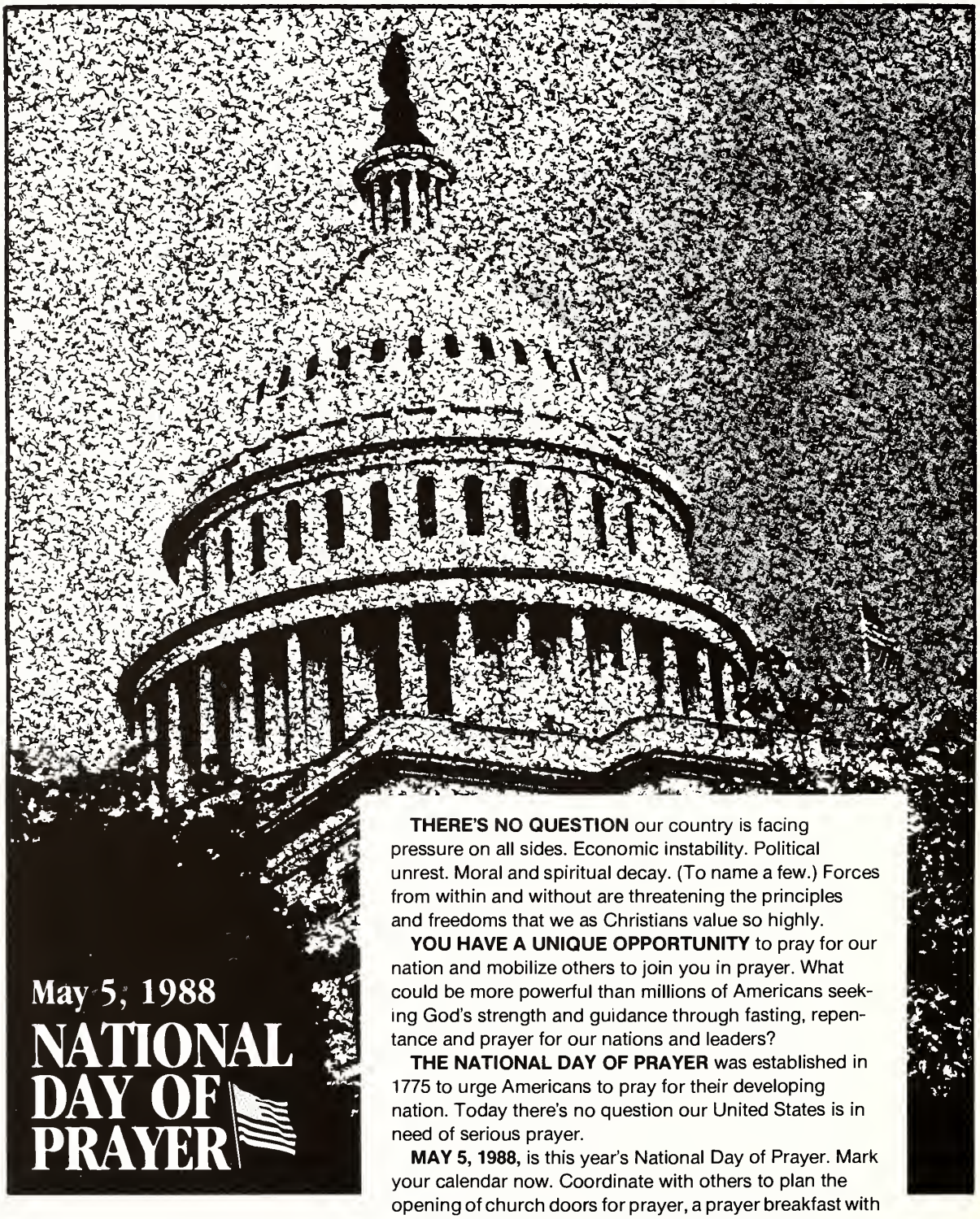
*by Lynette Sumerlin*

Especially at this time of the year, we are reminded to consider the slow, agonizing death that Jesus suffered upon the Cross at Calvary for each one of us. Read about the Crucifixion in Matthew 27:32-55; Mark 15:21-40; Luke 23:26-49; and John 19:17-37.

The four Gospel writers record these eight sentences that Jesus spoke while He hung upon the Cross. Unscramble the letters in each word and then put the words in order to make each sentence correct. (On **one** cross, there are two sentences.)



# ONE NATION UNDER PRESSURE




**THERE'S NO QUESTION** our country is facing pressure on all sides. Economic instability. Political unrest. Moral and spiritual decay. (To name a few.) Forces from within and without are threatening the principles and freedoms that we as Christians value so highly.

**YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY** to pray for our nation and mobilize others to join you in prayer. What could be more powerful than millions of Americans seeking God's strength and guidance through fasting, repentance and prayer for our nations and leaders?

**THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** was established in 1775 to urge Americans to pray for their developing nation. Today there's no question our United States is in need of serious prayer.

**MAY 5, 1988,** is this year's National Day of Prayer. Mark your calendar now. Coordinate with others to plan the opening of church doors for prayer, a prayer breakfast with government officials or a rally on your state capitol's steps.

Use your influence to help call all Americans to embrace one of our greatest freedoms—**TO PRAY.**

For National Day of Prayer promotional materials contact: National Day of Prayer Task Force, P.O. Box 6826, San Bernardino, CA 92412. (714) 882-9932.

# HOME MISSIONS: THE TASK BEFORE US

*by Ray Wells*

"The Board of Home Missions and Evangelism shall supervise all missionary and church extension work within the continental United States."

That statement comes from the Duties and Responsibilities in Article III, Section 22 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. It sets forth the task of Home Missions. However, neither the Home Missions Board nor any denominational ministry can accomplish its task without the help of the local churches and pastors. We need to work cooperatively to accomplish what we have been commissioned to do.

In the 16 years of the Home Mission Board's existence as we now know it, the income has gone from $525 in 1972 to $156,220 in 1987. You have responded well to the task. Since 1972, 19 Home Mission churches have been started, of those 9 have been organized into churches. The Board has responded to the task. But, as the old saying goes, that was then, this is now. What is our task as we face the beginning of the 1990s? I see the task of the church and of Home Missions as a threefold task.

The *first task* is to *plant.* As a denomination, we must enlarge our outreach. We must increase the number of missions each year. We need to look seriously at planting new churches. This can be done in several ways.

1. A group of believers in an area where there is no Original Free Will Baptist Church may decide to come together and form the nucleus for a mission.
2. A church may decide to "mother" a mission. The mother church commits itself to support the mission completely in cooperation with the Home Missons Board.
3. A church may decide to send a group from within itself to another part of town or community to plant a new church.

We must remember as Free Will Baptists, there will be no harvesting if there is no planting.

The *second task* is to *evangelize.* If we as Free Will Baptist ministers really believe that there is a "Heaven to gain and a Hell to shun," then we owe it to those who are lost to tell them the good news of salvation. According to the *World Book Dictionary,* "evangelize" means to preach the gospel to or to convert to Christianity by preaching." As ministers, it is our task to evangelize. We need to be about the task of converting people to Christianity. Our task as a Board is to offer to the ministry ways to accomplish that task. However, no seminar on evangelism is of any use unless we attend it and then put into practice what we have learned. The task before us as ministers is to practice evangelism as fervently as we preach it.

The *third task* is *to witness.* One of the shortcomings of Christianity is its lack of enthusiasm for witnessing. Just as evangelizing was for the minister, witnessing is something that all Christians are commanded to do. Home Missions or any other ministry would fail if it were not for the witness of those ministries. But what about at home, in your church, your community—have you risen to the task? Have you been a faithful witness?

In the 15½ years of Home Missions history, hundreds have come to know Christ as Saviour through the witnessing of your missionaries and those congregations. We have met and continue to meet the task of witnessing and with your helping us witness, by the 1990s we will have reached thousands.

So our task is this:

1. To Plant
2. To Evangelize
3. To Witness

It is not an easy task, but it is one that is most important. As a Board we are committed to the task. Our missionaries and mission congregations are committed to the task. But the questions that are of utmost importance are:

1. Pastor, are you committed to the task?
2. Churches, are you committed to the task?

Before we can ever do great things for our great God we must be willing and able to answer YES to those two questions.

May God give us the courage to say, "Lord, we are able, our spirits are thine."



# HOME MISSIONS IN PITT COUNTY

*by Annie Tyson*

*. . . and upon this rock I will build my church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it* (Matthew 16:18).

*. . . and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth* (Acts 1:8).

When considering the Great Commission, our "Jerusalem" is right here at home. And it includes our home missions work. Pitt County in North Carolina has a home mission—Hillside Free Will Baptist Church in Grifton, a church that has come so far and yet has so much more to accomplish for the cause of Christ. But even with the hard times our Lord has promised to "supply all our needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

Our thanks go out to many people who for the past few years have offered us much help, care, love, and prayers. Because of our Home Missions Boards, Original Free Will Baptist Churches, and the love of God, we are what we are today—but not yet what we can be tomorrow through the grace of God.

The home missions church in Grifton is located on a hill off Highland Avenue. When the Home Missions Board first saw the church and church grounds, they were very skeptical this would be a good location for a home missions church. But through the hard labors of young people and adults, the grounds were mowed and picked up, and the inside of the church was cleaned. After the church and grounds were renovated, the Board decided this location would make an ideal place for a home mission. So, the old Catholic Church became the Original Free Will Baptist Church, with the Home Missions Board paying $400 a month for rent. The Eastern Conference Executive Committee donated pews from the Woodington Church property in Lenoir County. By the efforts of W. H. Willis, *The Free Will Baptist* paper, and various churches, hymnals were donated. The Rev. Clifton Rice donated a large Bible that was placed on the communion table. By the grace of God and the generous donations of Christian friends, the Original Free Will Baptist Church was able to hold its first church service the third Sunday in October, 1982! The Rev. James Sowers was and is still the Director/Pastor of the home missions church.

In October, 1984, the trustees at the church negotiated to purchase the church and property. The Central Conference Home Missions Board gave $5,200 to help make the down payment. The previous year's rent, $4,800, also went toward the down payment, making a total of $10,000 for the down payment. The trustees arranged to have $76,000 financed. Monthly payments would be $800.27. The Central Conference Home Missions Board continued to contribute $400 toward the monthly payment, until July, 1985, when the church asked the Board to decrease the Board's part of the monthly payment. The Central Conference Home Missions Board

will decrease its part of the monthly payment every six months by $50, so that by July 1, 1990, the home missions church will become independent.

Under the leadership of the Rev. James Sowers, your home missions church has grown spiritually and physically. Brother Jimmy has been a dedicated shepherd watching over his flock during the years. He and his family work diligently with the people. Average attendance for church worship service is 45. A children's church was started approximately four years ago, with only three children attending. The children's church today usually has ten to twelve children present. The church has Vacation Bible School every year in June, with an average attendance of 50.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the church always stays busy planning fund raisers, projects, youth activities and good fellowship for the church. In 1988, they purchased a marble Bible mounted on a pedestal stand in front of the church. Every year the Ladies Auxiliary carries on the mission work, touching the lives of the elderly retired residents of the Gray Hill Apartments in Grifton. At Christmas, the ladies host a dinner in honor of the residents. (In the past, the Auxiliary members would carry the meal to the fellowship hall located at the apartments, but this year the Ladies Auxiliary hosted the dinner at the fellowship hall of our church.)

The men and ladies at the church are always willing to help when there is a need in the community. Recently, our church and another church in Lenoir County held a fund raiser to raise money to help a family in need of financial support for medical bills, which totaled $2,152.00. The men and women also took the residents of the Gray Hill Apartments on a shopping trip before Christmas.

The Grifton Church also participates in a community service at Thanksgiving and Easter with three other denominational churches in Grifton. A Sunrise Easter Service is also held.

The year 1987 brought many rewards and accomplishments for the church. Whenever a need was mentioned, God would richly bless by providing what was needed. Sanctuary lights donated by Wayside Tabernacle Church, of Thomasville (where Claude Garrett Sr. is pastor), were installed by the Ladies Auxiliary. The lights were valued at $3,200. Central air conditioning was installed during the spring of 1987. One five-ton unit and two three-ton units, valued $5,690, were donated by the Central Conference Missions Board. A bus was donated in early September by Marsh Swamp Church. The people at the church refurbished the bus and have put it to use by carrying the young people to youth meetings and activities, Layman's League meetings, the State Fair in Raleigh, a shopping spree for the elderly retired residents of the Gray Hill Apartments in Grifton, and other church outings. A piano was donated in October (from the Maury Church property) by the Central Conference Missions Board and the Central Conference Executive Board.

In August, 1987, the members of the church agreed to change the name of the church to Hillside Free Will Baptist Church, but we are still *your* home missions church. An appropriate church sign was purchased and donated by the Layman's League and Ladies Auxiliary at Hillside. The sign was erected in November denoting the name change.

Sunday, February 28, 1988, was a special day for the members at Hillside. It was a day of dedicating to the glory of God the gifts we received during 1987: the sanctuary lights, the central air conditioning, the church sign, the activity bus, and the piano. David Hansley, director of the Home Missions Board, was our guest speaker during the morning worship service. His topic for the morning was "Is There No Turning Point?" We as a church have come so far but there are still people in this world who are hungry for the Word of God. We are evangels who must spread the Word of God and carry out the work of the church and of God. We must know our endeavor in the future is the high calling of Jesus Christ. As we look ahead for things to do, we need to look at our fellowman, both at home and around the world, and let them know that we really do care and love them. Our Lord said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, If ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

At 3 p.m., on February 28, 1988, our special dedication service commenced. Billy Gurkins, a member of the Central Conference Home Missions Board, shared a devotion with us and told us that we took the Word of God with us everywhere we go—work, church, school, etc. David Hansley led the dedication service. The Rev. Ray Wells spoke about home missions and how Hillside was like a lighthouse that shone for the glory of God. (We are touching lives by our love, prayers, and material things. Together with God we can do all things—and nothing will be impossible for us.)

We are Hillside are planning for 1988. We held our first youth meeting at Hillside in January with eight young people present. Six AFC boys and girls participated in the Talent Competition at the Central District Youth Meeting in January. The boys and girls are eager to learn about

(Turn the Page)

Jesus and participate in youth activities. We held a rock-a-thon and sleep over on February 26, with ten young people present and raised approximately $100. The young people are already planning trips, fund raisers, and community activities.

The laymen at Hillside want to become more involved as a League and participate in the district laymen's meetings during 1988.

The men and women would like to make more improvements to the church grounds during 1988. We need to enlarge the choir loft so all our choir members can participate when singing. Carpeting in the sanctuary has also been mentioned as a 1988 improvement project.

The members of Hillside Church are very dedicated to helping people in need and touching lives in the community. The members work closely together when there are tasks to do, providing support and financial aid when it is needed; they love and treat each other as brothers and sisters, and carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ. We believe home missions is a vital part of God's plan of redemption. We want to share our love and the gospel with everyone we meet. With your support, your prayers, and your faith our work at Grifton will continue to grow.

Through the combined efforts of our State Convention Home Missions Board and the Central Conference Missions Board, we at Hillside Mission/Church in Grifton, North Carolina, are "Touching Lives for a Lifetime."

We are truly grateful for the opportunity to be the vehicle through which these two boards can serve the Lord and the Free Will Baptist denomination. We are the fruit of your prayers and of your financial support. And we thank you.

## HOME MISSIONS SUNDAY
## APRIL 24, 1988

**PURPOSE:** To assist in the ministry of planting churches and enabling Home Missions to move forward, and to invest in the future for God.

**YOUR CHURCH IS INVITED TO:**

1. Pray . . .
   - A. For the total ministries of the Home Missions Department
   - B. For the Directors/Pastors of our mission churches
   - C. For more laborers
   - D. For opportunities of service
   - E. For the Board and staff
2. Participate in this ministry by receiving a special love offering for Home Missions



*He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will reap also bountifully* (2 Corinthians 9:6).



**Pelt Family Returns for MOC Homecoming**—The family of Dr. Michael Pelt, professor of Religion at Mount Olive College since 1957, attended homecoming festivities held January 30 at College Hall. Three of the Pelt children are alumni of the College. Pictured from left to right, front row, are Dr. Pelt's wife, Mrs. Betty Pelt; their youngest daughter, Julie; grandson, Michael Roach; daughter, Sharon Pelt Roach; grandson, Billy; daughter-in-law, Deborah Pelt; second row, Dr. Pelt; son-in-law, Hal Roach; and son, Cary Pelt. Cary is a staff sergeant at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina. Sharon and her family reside in Greensboro, North Carolina (photo by Kathy Bateman).



**ENLARGING OUR MINISTRY**

# THE SOWERS CLUB

**". . . There went out a sower to sow" (Mark 4:3).**

**PURPOSE:** The Board of Home Missions is committed to evangelism and church planting. By joining THE SOWERS CLUB, you become a participant in that commitment. Our purpose in church growth and specialized ministries is to bring glory to Jesus Christ.

**OPPORTUNITY:** Opportunities for opening the doors for more churches and special ministries are approaching—We want to be ready! We know you would like to have a vital part as a leader of the movement of God to become involved in this cause for the Kingdom.

**THE MOTIVE:** The proper motive of your participation in THE SOWERS CLUB is to establish a personal goal in giving.

**3 STEPS IN FAITHFUL GIVING**

1.) **DESIRE**—You have a DESIRE that the Board of Home Missions plant churches and continue in specialized ministries.

2.) **DETERMINE**—You are DETERMINED that you will follow the command of the Lord to "go and make disciples."

3.) **DEDICATION**—You are DEDICATED to the Lord and are joining THE SOWERS CLUB, "For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

**DOUBLE DUTY:** Your faith promise will do DOUBLE DUTY through THE SOWERS CLUB. 10% of your contribution will be placed in the SOWERS ENDOWMENT FUND, the remainder in the general operation fund. The purpose of this endowment is to perpetuate the ministry of Home Missions in planting churches and a continued specialized ministry—"TOUCHING LIVES FOR A LIFETIME."

**YOUR FAITH PROMISE:** Since your contribution/faith promise to THE SOWERS CLUB is made voluntarily and in dependance upon God, should you have sound reasons for not reaching your goal, you are not brought into spiritual or legal bondage. This covenant may be cancelled or altered at any time. A faith promise is not a debt—it is a voluntary gift to the Lord's work.

---

NAME: _____ ADDRESS _____

DATE SIGNED _____ _____

PHONE: _____



THE SOWERS CLUB

Board of Home Missions
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039

I will send my gifts as checked

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Bi-annually
- ☐ Annually

MY WEEKLY GIFT

To assist in planting churches and enabling Home Missions to move forward, and to invest in the future for God, I am willing to give to The Sowers Club.

| 52 WEEKS PER WEEK | TOTAL |
|---|---|
| ☐ $10 | 520 |
| ☐ $ 5 | 260 |
| ☐ $ 4 | 208 |
| ☐ $ 3 | 156 |
| ☐ $ 2 | 104 |
| ☐ $ 1 | 52 |
| ☐ Other | |

Beginning Date_____



## MOC OFFERS EXTENSION COURSE IN CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH

*by Kathy Bateman and Mickey Stewart*

Members of Everett Chapel Church, in Clayton, and other churches in the area saw the need to minister to Johnston County's growing Spanish-speaking population.

In order to prepare for that ministry, area churches requested that Mount Olive College offer an extension course in "Conversational Spanish" so that pastors, church members and members of the community could learn to speak the language.

The course is now being taught at Selma Church by Mrs. Olga R. Ruiz, professor of Spanish at Mount Olive College.

Mrs. Ruiz, who taught Spanish on a part-time basis at Mount Olive College for 14 years, began teaching full-time at the College during fall semester.

A graduate of the University of Havana and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Mrs. Ruiz holds both bachelor and master of arts degrees. She taught in the public schools in Havana, Cuba, for 15 years before coming to the United States. The Ruiz family held membership in a Free Will Baptist mission work in Cuba prior to the Communist Revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Ruiz are currently members of Rodgers Chapel Church at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Ruiz taught Spanish at Southern Wayne High School from 1969-1987. She retired from that position last September.

Mrs. Ruiz said the 14 students in the class come from very diverse backgrounds. "We have nurses, clerks, a minister, a minister's wife, a dentist's wife, a businessman, even two high school age students who want to be able to communicate with the Spanish-speaking population in the area."

Each class begins with The Lord's Prayer and students bring their own prayers for translation. Mrs. Ruiz teaches language that would be appropriate for each of the occupational fields represented in the classroom, and says she finds the class very enjoyable. "They are highly motivated students," said Mrs. Ruiz. "They bring dictionaries, tape recorders and they have all kinds of question. The students are really a pleasure to work with."

The Rev. Lloyd Hargis, pastor of Everett Chapel Church and a member of the class, arranged the initial meeting of lay persons and ministers to work out the details of the course. "Mrs. Ruiz has been a great blessing," said Hargis. He said the reward in the class is seeing people working to better themselves.

Joyce Wright, a member of First Baptist Church in Smithfield, is also taking the class. "Our church is sponsoring a Spanish mission beginning March 1. We have hired a Spanish-speaking minister, Robin Chapman, to help with the mission. I'm interested in sharing Christ with these people and just wanted to be able to say a few phrases to communicate with them," said Mrs. Wright.

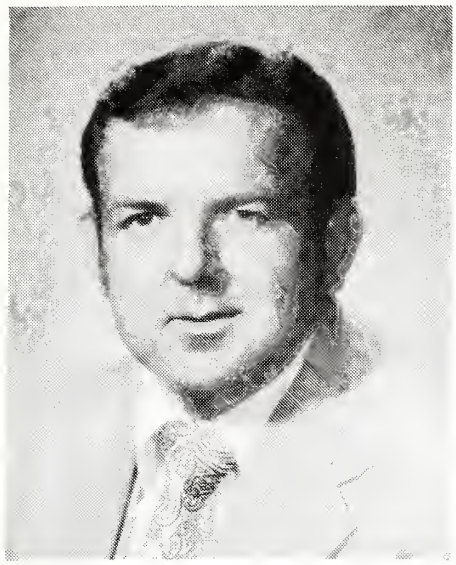
Betty Marshall of Everett Chapel Church works with Tri-County Health Clinic and saw the need for a translator to help doctors understand Spanish-speaking people who were sick and couldn't explain what was wrong. "The Spanish-speaking people in the area look so sad, and if I could just be a friend to them . . . that's all," said Mrs. Marshall.

Pastor Hargis said he foresees a great ministry through the class and the Free Will Baptist Church. "Through this effort many Spanish-speaking people could come to know the Lord and be an asset to the church," said Hargis.

## PASTOR DONATES HISTORICAL VOLUMES TO MOC LIBRARY

*by Kathy D. Bateman*
Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

The Rev. Bruce Jones, a 1971 alumnus of Mount Olive College, and his wife, Judy, have donated the 128-volume set of the republished *War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* to the College's Moye Library.



Averaging over 1,000 pages each, the volumes are one of only 4900 sets published and printed by the National Historical Association.

The Rev. and Mrs. Jones donated the volumes in honor of each of the members of King's Cross Roads Church in Pitt County, where Jones has served as pastor since 1980.

MOC Librarian Gary F. Barefoot said, "Rev. Jones' desire to honor each member of his church with a book is certainly admirable and is indeed a first as far as I know for any minister to do. Not only has he honored them, but he also has provided valuable historical research material for our library and made a significant impact on our goal to reach 50,000 volumes for our library by 1989.

Mr. Jones is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College where he received his bachelor of arts degree in Religion. Jones is presently serving on the Ordaining Council of the Central Conference and also on the Home Missions Board. Prior to his pastorate at King's Cross Roads Church, Jones served as pastor of British Chapel Church in Kinston for four years.

Mrs. Jones is employed as an engineer with Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company in Greenville. She is active with the youth program at the church and directs the King's Cross Roads Gospel Band. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two children. Their son, Samuel, is seven, and their daughter, Rachel, is three years old.

## FIRST MISSIONS CONFERENCE

*by Paul Grubbs*

November 20-22, 1987, were very exciting days for the Free Will Baptist Church in the Philippines. On these days we held our First Missions Conference. The Rev. Keith Brown, of Overseas Crusades, was the keynote speaker, and our very own Andrino Segay began the Conference with a workshop on "How to Discover Your Spiritual Gifts." We had 82 people to register for this First Missions Conference.

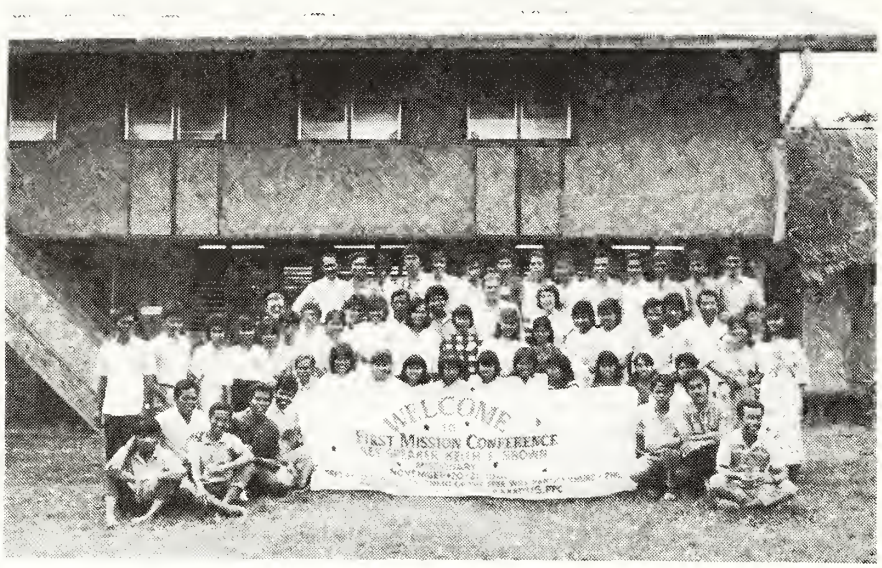
God's messages through Mr. Brown were very challenging. He showed us from God's Word that God desires mankind to make Him known to mankind. For example, in Genesis 12:1-3, God called Abraham to go. God said, "I will bless you . . . and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you" (*NIV*). We find this to be the pattern for missions throughout the Bible. God wishes to bless all the people of the world through His people. He calls us to Himself, saying, "Come, I will bless you. Go so I can bless the whole world through you."

The problem is that there are 5 billion people in the world and only 6% are true Christians (they believe basic biblical doctrines and are active in church), 19% are nominal Christians (these are people who call themselves Christian, but are not active in God's church), 23% are non-Christian within reach (they live in areas where a church is; some have heard the gospel and others have never heard the gospel), and 52% are unreached (these have not heard the gospel and there is no one near enough to them to share the gospel with them).

Other statistics that Mr. Brown

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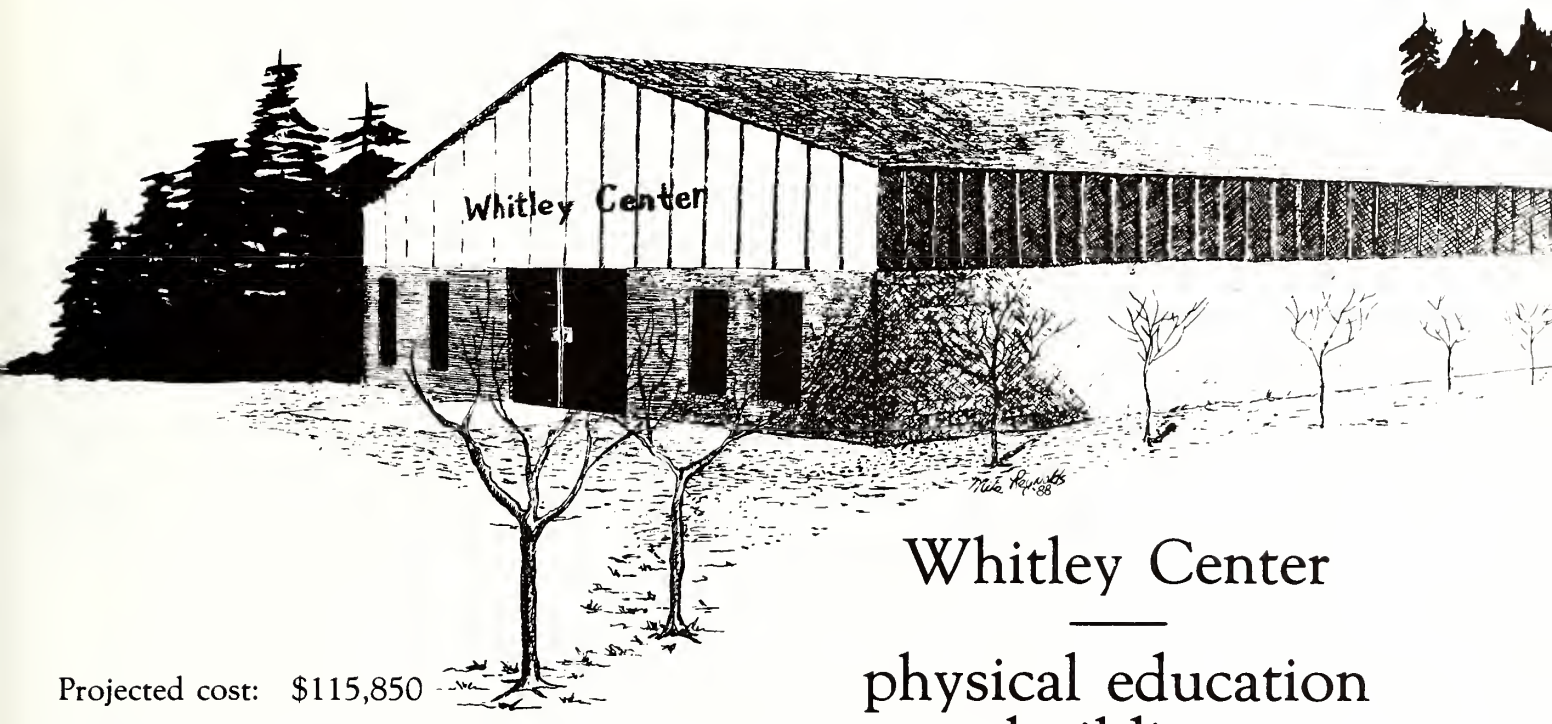





shared with us included populations of some countries and the number of Christians in those countries. Part of that is as follows: Japan, 123 million, only 400,000 Christians (less than 1%); Turkey, 51 million, only 750 Christians; Afghanistan, 13 million, only a handful of secret Christians; Algeria, 19 million, only 500 Christians. The list goes on, but we stop here just to give you an idea of the great need for your response to the Great Commission.

Mr. Brown said that there are three ways to respond to the Great Commission: giving, praying, and going. We can all give what God has given to us. We can all pray to God to send laborers into the field and for the souls to receive the gospel. We can all go to our neighbors and share the gospel so that God may bless them.

Those responding to the challenges from God through Keith Brown were as follows: 22 persons said they have felt God calling them to the "mission" field; 34 persons are still praying for God to touch their lives and show them His calling for them; all 82 persons who attended said, "I will support missions by giving and praying." Many of these 82 persons are already in God's fields.




# Whitley Center

## physical education building

Projected cost: $115,850

Construction to begin in April, 1988

## *Meeting The . . .*

## *Challenge*

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home and concerned friends and supporters are committed to meeting the challenge of providing the best quality care. This progressive ministry has made continued progress since its beginning in May 1920. Today, however, the problems facing our youth are alarming, the issues complex. New approaches are needed to assure that our young people can and will achieve their full potential.

Our investment in providing a home, leadership, and teaching to homeless children has proven to be a vision for our future. Hundreds of children served now live in communities across this nation making their contribution to society.

This visionary attitude continues through the leadership of the Board of Directors. The Board is seeking to extend the quality of our services by construction of a physical education building. This project began years ago in a long-range planning committee. Now is the time. The Board has officially adopted the plans for this dream to become a reality. We are committed to the construction of this facility in 1988. Meeting this challenge will extend services and program development - providing for children structured physical education, organized competition, group exercise and a place for play activity during inclement weather and the winter.

In the planning process it was agreed that an appropriate name would be Whitley Center. This is significant because it reflects our heritage. The first children to enter

our care on May 23, 1920 were Carl, Dorothy, Helen, and Nellie Whitley.

As we move into the 21st Century the strength of our country depends on the development and preparation of our youth.

With your help and support, Whitley Center will become an important part in the lives of our youth. Let us join together in working for a strong and healthy future and in preserving the "American Dream" for all children. The goals of our ministry are to help homeless children believe in themselves and the Christian faith; to make the most of their potential; to value a healthy mind and body; and to become self-sufficient, productive members of society.

On the day of dedication as you join us, our reward will be the personal satisfaction that comes from knowing that we have given our very best. Our investment will be in the lives of today's children. But more than that, it will continue for the children of tomorrow.

**ATTENTION**
**WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES**

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for, your district convention. The dues are 40¢ per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep 20¢ and send 20¢ to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to count on you.

Mrs. Nadine Crocker
*State Treasurer*

**ANNIE STEPHENSON**
**CRAGMONT ENDOWMENT**
**AWARD**

Annie Stephenson was a dedicated Christian, devoted to Cragmont. She was a spiritual leader in her home, church, and community. In her everyday life she exemplified compassion and love; many people were influenced by her example.

Cragmont Woman's Conference was a spiritual highlight of Annie's life for many years. At her death, September 18, 1985, an endowment was established in Annie's memory in order that others might experience what she enjoyed there.

If your Auxiliary would like to nominate a person to receive an expense-paid trip to the 1988 Woman's Conference, please submit her name by May 15, 1988. Include with your nomination a brief explanation of why you would like this person selected.

Send information to: Mrs. Robert J. Rhodes, Route 1, Box 403-B, Smithfield, NC 27577.

**ATTENTION**
**WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES**

The 1988 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church in Winterville, NC. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their registration fees in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money, and allows the State Treasurer to prepare the cards in advance. Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, to the following address: Mrs. Nadine Crocker, State Treasurer, Route 3, Box 280AA, Kenly, NC 27542.

If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the Convention needs your support.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**

**The zip code for mail going to our missionaries in Palawan, Philippines has been changed to 5300.**

**Please use this zip code on all future correspondence to the Philippines.**



## MISSIONS CONFERENCE AT TRENT CHURCH

*by Willem van der Plas*

It was great to be again in our home county and to travel over the well-known roads from Arapahoe to Trent Church, a small congregation with the Rev. D. T. Cleve as pastor. These mission-oriented believers, are not withholding their heart to the world.

The program was set up well with moments of devotion, testimonies and broad-scale information on Friday and Saturday nights. The service theme for Sunday morning was "The Kingdom of Heaven on Earth."

It was heartwarming to meet well-known people out of other congregations; even some ladies which we met last summer at Cragmont were present. The testimonies of Mrs. Sandra Jones and Mrs. Lydia van der Plas were challenging, presented evangelism and world vision as a personal decision and task for all believers everywhere. The slide program of the Rev. Harold Jones showed people in the three mission fields where our church has accepted to serve. When we looked at the pictures we were again made aware of the abundant blessings which we receive in this nation. We learned also that our world attention is part of the command of Jesus, to liberate all people who live in fear of cults, superstition, and old traditions. We also experienced that this conference was bringing us closer together in sharing the joy of faith and the love of God. Together we prayed for strength and faithfulness.

Among all the special people of Trent Church, we met some old acquaintances, some people which we met just before we left to go to the Philippines, Marine Captain Mark Foreman and his wife, Sally with their children. Sally is Filipino by birth and they informed us about the lifestyle of the Filipinos, the climate, the food and many other things. Sally was the first Filipino I had met. I was made even more joyful when I heard that they were both baptized recently. They are now members of Trent Church.

## THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR A CHURCH/ DENOMINATIONAL RETIREMENT MINISTRY

*by Walter Sutton*

Here at Retirement Homes, Inc., we believe there are strong biblical grounds for Original Free Will Baptists to initiate, promote and support a ministry that will benefit its elderly citizens in ways both spiritual and physical. We believe such an endeavor is not only biblically sound, but *practicable.*

The burden of this paper is to state these beliefs based upon what we believe to be sound exegeses of Scriptures that are "in their season." Our primary application will harmonize with interpretation. All Scripture was written under inspiration (guidance) of Jehovah. They are profitable for doctrine (knowledge, belief), reproof (censure to the face), correction (direction) and instruction in righteousness (the daily practice of good Christianity) (2 Timothy 3:16). All Scripture can be believed today. By study, prayer and illumination of the mind by the Holy Spirit, Scripture can be understood, communicated and established in our hearts, thereby becoming a working, living principle.

But all Scripture cannot be practiced today. Here is an example of what I am saying: Psalm 137 was written toward the end of the Babylonian exile. The psalmist, an Israelite, who remembered the cruelties of the Babylonians toward the Jews in the deportations of 598-597 B.C., was anxious for vengeance. Having lived under the divine Law given by Jehovah to Moses which declared: "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe" (Exodus 21:24-25), he could sing with

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perfect propriety: "O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed; happy shall he be, that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us. Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones" (Psalm 137:8-9). This kind of language in the mouth of a believer today (or thought in his heart) would be *out of place, out of season,* and contrary to the mind of Jehovah.

We are taught: "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place to wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head" (Romans 12:19-20).

The proper behavior for the believer today is recorded in Ephesians 5:1-2: "Be ye therefore followers of God [Jesus your Saviour] as dear children: walk in love, as Christ hath loved us, and hath given himself for an offering and a sacrifice to Jehovah for a sweetsmelling savour."

Biblical rules that govern interpretation and application of Scripture are necessary to their right understanding. I learned this thirty years ago while a ministerial student at Mount Olive College. The instructor assigned some reading for me to do in the library from books written on this subject. Right now, I do not remember who assigned the reading or the books, but both did me much good, and to each I am thankful today. I read a statement made by Miles Coverdale: "It shall greatly help ye to understand the Scripture, if thou mark, not only what is spoken or written, but of whom, and to whom, with what words, and what time, where, to what intent, with what circumstances, considering what goeth before, and what followeth." The second, I know not to whom I should give credit. Prominent scholars, some of whom were: Dr. Alva J. McClain, Dr. J. Sidlow Baxter, Dr. David L. Cooper, Dr. Kenneth Wuest and Dr. E. Schayler English observed this rule and called it *the golden rule of interpretation:* "When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore take each word at its primary, ordinary, usual literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context studied in the light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths indicate clearly otherwise." These rules, coupled with others recorded in the Bible have helped me correlate truths that agree, and to distinguish between things that differ.

The words of Isaiah, the prophet of Israel, come to view here: "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, line upon line; and here a little, and there a little" (Isaiah 28:9-10). These Jews of the Southern Kingdom of Israel had become obstinately critical of the instructional methods of Jehovah through Isaiah in warning them of the impending downfall of the Northern Kingdom. They accused Isaiah of teaching them as though they were children. The educational process of necessity begins with elementary truth and ascends the spirit of truth reaching the fountainhead of all truth—Jehovah.

Education is a never-ending process repeated over and over again. Command on command, precept on precept, and line on line. Those Jews of Judah criticized the prophet for his method of teaching, but the prophet did not change his method. It is a fundamental rule not likely to be reversed. Blessed are those who accept the truth.

We have reached the heart of this paper. Two bodies of Scripture will hold our attention. Their interpretation and application give us a reasonable biblical basis for our retirement ministry.

Paul, prince of apostles, prince of gospel preachers, example to all believers today, writes in "Spirit-taught words" to the believers who were members of the Corinthian church:

> "For as the body [the human body] is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many are one body, so also is Christ, the messiah, the Anointed One. For by [means of the personal agency of] one [Holy] spirit we were all baptized [positioned, placed] into [from outside to inside] one body [Christ's mystical body] whether we be Jews or Greeks, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink in one [Holy] Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, *The Amplified New Testament;* Kenneth Wuest, *Expanded Translation of the New Testament;* and the *KJV*).

Each believer is a member of the body of Christ. Each one has been positioned there sovereignly by the Holy Spirit. Their position is indicative of their relationship and responsibility to other believers who are in the body also.

In order to simplify this high truth, Paul chooses the figure of the *human body,* a figure that would be familiar to all. A figure in Scripture is the signature of the Holy Spirit used with a dual purpose: to get the reader's *attention* and bring him *closer to the truth at hand.* Paul had beheld this truth in beatific vision and here attempts to share it with believers both then and now. Without question here is *high truth,* beautiful truth, that relates to all believers. The human body is the most marvelous physical creation in the universe. The making of a star, continent, or ocean is not to be compared with the wonder of the skill that entered into the making of the human body. It was a miracle that could only be

wrought by the adroit hands of the Almighty. It is no wonder at all that David declared in Psalm 139: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made . . . ." The human body may be likened to a vast city with ten times thirty trillion inhabitants—each inhabitant with an assigned task; each one minding his own business. Each one cooperating and coordinating his work to complement the whole. These inhabitants are busy all the time doing their part to insure that the human body functions properly. The figure of the human body in this text personifies the body of Christ into which each believer has been sovereignly positioned or placed by the Holy Spirit. Just as members of the human body function in the interest of the whole, so should believers who are members of the body of Christ. All believers have positions with responsibilities. All have relationships that require togetherness. Our duties in the body are more spiritual than physical (though we do have physical responsibilities to each other). In the body of Christ we concern ourselves with matters of faith and practice.

We must realize the value of corporate worship and daily expression of our faith to God and man. We must ourselves be sober, vigilant, faithful, and godly. We must encourage others in the body to do likewise.

We are to carry our cross, bear our burdens, and help others while they help us. We who are strong are encouraged to help those who are weak. We all should practice Bible reading, Bible study, and prayer. Our minds should be illumined by the Holy Spirit, our tongues voicing the way of salvation with praise before Jesus our Saviour. Giving attention to these and other spiritual responsibilities in the body of Christ is about the only safeguard I know against the body (our Free Will Baptist body of believers) becoming schismatic. Impure beliefs, parties, factions and divisions, Retirement Homes will not identify with. These are sicknesses for which there is hardly any cure. They hinder the growth and maturity of our ministries. The sooner we realize this, the sooner we will begin to experience some growth. If we think growth in number will come without spiritual growth, we deceive ourselves. Together they will come or not at all.

*Consecration, dedication* and *separation* are the personal ministries of each believer in the body of Christ. When practiced and developed they produce a beautiful person whose life complements the whole body of Christ. Oh, that we all might learn the lesson of knowing our own place, our service, our responsibility and relationship in the body of Christ.

We turn attention now to 2 Timothy 4. Here we believe is biblical support for the social aspect of our retirement ministry. This chapter has three major divisions. To each we will give brief attention: In verses 1-5, Timothy is urged by the aged apostle to take the initiative in preaching the gospel. "As for myself," says Paul, "I am already offered, my life and ministry is complete. It is up to you, Timothy, to carry the gospel torch."

In verses 6-8, Paul casts a swift glance over his past life. In three figures: a Greek wrestler, a Greek runner and a Roman soldier—he sums up his life. These figures help us to understand more clearly the nobility of this man's soul. He, like a soldier, had fought his fight with sin and was resting in triumph. Like a runner he had run, crossed the finish line and was resting at the goal. Like a wrestler he had wrestled against opposition, endured hardships and persecution to the end and his taste of victory was sweet. Finished, triumph and victory convey to us the beautiful truth of a life lived purposefully and complete. Alone in his cell his faith was his friend. He knew well it had won him the victor's crown.

Verses 9-22 tell of his (Paul's) circumstances and present needs. He is a prisoner in a cold dark Roman cell. He waits for another trial before Nero which he knows will result in his death. He was alone except for Luke. Great soul that he was, he yet needed human fellowship and sympathy. So, he writes to Timothy who was laboring in Ephesus urging him to make haste and come to visit him before winter. He says, "Timothy, do your best to visit me quickly." The apostle, living the beginning of the end of his life, wanted his dearest friends and what few possessions that were his near him when the end came. He requested Timothy to bring Mark, his books, parchments, and his coat.

Here we have a beautiful picture of the social arm of our retirement ministry. What could be more important to a retired minister than a good home, warm clothing, his books, his Bible, and friends? Measured by the world's standard of values these are little, but to retired families and the Retirement Homes ministry, they are much.

The Lord stood with Paul and strengthened him until the end. Believers in the body of Christ today have that same assurance. Free Will Baptists today and tomorrow have the assurance that they will be remembered by their denomination in their retirement years.

We close with our paraphrase of James 1:27, "Pure Christianity in the sight of Jehovah, the believers' Father is this: to befriend children whose parents are departed, befriend widows in their time of need . . . ."

# CRAGMONT TOURNAMENT



## GOLF TOURNAMENT, APRIL 29

A day of fun and excitement is scheduled for the first 144 golfers to register in the second annual spring golf tournament to raise funds for Cragmont. The tournament is scheduled to be played April 29 at the FARMVILLE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB in Farmville, North Carolina. The features of the tournament are as follows:

FORMAT: Four-man team superball
TEE TIME: 9 a.m. (shotgun start)
1 p.m. (shotgun start)
TROPHIES: Top three teams
Closest to pin on par 3's
Longest drive
PRIZES: Awarded to trophy winners
Several drawings
ENTRY FEE: $30 (cart and evening meal included)
EVENING MEAL: For golfer and entire family
REMEMBER: Only the first 144 golfers to register will play!

Team eligibility will be determined by the following scale:

| Player Status | Average Score | Handicap | Point |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 77-less | 4 Less | 4 |
| B | 78-85 | 5-11 | 3 |
| C | 86-92 | 12-17 | 2 |
| D | 93-more | 18 more | 1 |

A team may have any combination that does not exceed 11 points. No more than 72 players can tee off either time.

You may register as an individual or with one, two, or three other persons. If you sign up as a group of 4, your foursome is guaranteed for the tournament. If you sign with less than 4, we will complete your foursome for you. Also, if you sign up with less than 4, you may have to be split up to make a team. If you sign with less than 4, please designate a team captain. The team captain can elect a guaranteed partner.

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### REGISTRATION FORM

PLAYER NAME _____

HOME PHONE _____ PLAYER STATUS _____

TEAM CAPTAIN'S NAME _____ Number eating _____

GUARANTEED PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

PARTNER _____ Number eating _____

Preferred Tee Time _____ 9:00 a.m.

_____ 1:00 p.m.

If you would like to play in the tournament, contact Bryant Hines: Home phone 756-3853

Make checks payable to: CRAGMONT EVENTS

Mail to: Bryant Hines
P.O. Box 878
Winterville, NC 28590

THE CAPE FEAR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will hold its spring meeting with Robert's Grove Church on April 13. "Treasures in Heaven" is the theme for the session, with Matthew 19:21 serving as the Convention Scripture.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow"
—Devotions, Mavie Daughtry, Yelverton Grove Church
—Special Music, Host Church
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, Natalie Taylor, Smithfield Church
—Greetings, Linda Jackson, Shady Grove Church
—Business Session
—Treasures in Heaven Through:
Missions
The Children's Home
Retirement Homes
Mount Olive College
Free Will Baptist Press
Cragmont
11:15—Morning Worship
—Hymn, "Blessed Assurance"
—Offering
—Special Music, Host Church
—Convention Message, the Rev. Michael Ledbetter, Pleasant Grove Church
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"
—Memorial Service, Bernice Godwin, Oak Grove Church
1:20—Miscellaneous Business
—Hymn, "Where We'll Never Grow Old"
2:00—Adjournment

THE SECOND UNION OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE will meet Sunday, May 29, 1988, at Bethany Church, located on Highway 903 south of Winterville at 3 p.m.

A "Concert of Prayer" will be led by the Rev. Harold Jones.

THE ALBEMARLE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will meet with Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie, on Thursday, April 14, 1988. The theme for the Convention is "Divine Preparation," with 1 Corinthians 8:9 serving as the Convention Scripture, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"
—Devotions, Mrs. Lula Daw
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Libby Taylor
—Response, Mrs. Salathiel Windley
—President's Greetings, Mrs. Eunice Sexton
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Missions News—Home and Foreign
—Offering for Missions
—Retirement Homes Report
—Children's Home Report
—Offering for Children's Home
—Hymn, "More About Jesus"
11:25—Special Music, Host Church
11:30—Message, Mrs. Donna Holland
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "He Hideth My Soul"
—Devotion, Mrs. Lewellyn Parker
1:15—Mount Olive College News
1:30—Free Will Baptist Press News
—Ministers' Program
1:50—Youth Report
—Committee Reports
—Announcements of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Presentation of "Woman of the Year Award"
—Benediction and Adjournment

THE EXAMINING BOARD OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE will meet at Saints Delight Church (Craven County), two miles north of the New Bern and Bridgeton Road (off 17 on the Saints Delight Church Road), Monday, April 18, 1988, at 10 a.m.

All who have business with the Board are asked to attend.

CASEY'S CHAPEL CHURCH has scheduled its spring revival, April 18-20, 1988. Services begin at 7:30 nightly. The evangelist will be the Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of Daniels Chapel Church, in Wilson County.

The pastor of Casey's Chapel Church is the Rev. C. Ray Taylor. The church is located on Highway 70, east of Goldsboro.

THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will sponsor a district study course on Tuesday, April 19, at Bethany Church. Mrs. Lydia van der Plas will be speaking on evangelism, using *Master Principles of Evangelism* (NavPress) as her source. (*Master Principles of Evangelism* is available from the Free Will Baptist Press and its branch bookstores.)

The study course is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
PERIODICALS

DURHAM NC 27706

MARLBORO CHURCH, Route 1, Farmville, has scheduled revival services for April 18-21, with services beginning nightly at 7:30. The Rev. Joe Ingram, pastor of Unity Church, Wilson, will be the guest evangelist.

The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, and congregation cordially invite everyone to join them for the services.

**THANK YOU**

Mrs. Margaret Brown and her family wish to express their appreciation for the many cards, visits, prayers, and phone calls they received during the recent death of the Rev. Noah Brown. They would also like to thank those who gave a book to Mount Olive College and/or contributed to Home Missions through the Brown Endowment.

Your love and kindness will always be remembered.

**MINISTER AVAILABLE**

The Rev. Larry Barbour wishes to announce that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services. He can be contacted by writing to him at Box 3933, Wilson, NC 27895; or by phoning 291-2512.

**NOTICE**

The Church Finance Association is in need of funds. If your church or church organization has funds that could be deposited with our Association, it would greatly benefit our churches and institutions. We are receiving more requests for loans than we have funds to supply. The interest paid on deposits is some less than you would receive from commercial institutions. However, the eternal returns are beyond measure. For more information, please contact us at the Headquarters Building in Ayden: phone 746-4963; Box 39, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.



BORN AGAIN, a "Southern gospel" style mixed quartet from Kinston, is available to sing in your church or for most any weekend function. No fee is charged and all donations will be used to defray expenses. You may contact BORN AGAIN by phoning Maurice Hill at 919-523-1236.

## MORNING STAR RETREAT

### (Woman's Auxiliary Mini-Retreat)

**Dates**—April 8-10, 1988

**Times**—Begins at 8 p.m. Friday
Adjourns at 11 Sunday

**Where**—Cragmont Assembly
Black Mountain, NC

**Cost**—$30

Includes—2 nights (Friday and Saturday)
4 meals (3 meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday)

Registration—$10

Mail to—Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

The remaining $20 due upon arrival.

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and fun.

For information, please contact:

Co-Directors—Dola Dudley
510 5th Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DIVINITY SCHOOL LIBRARY

"Have A Happy Mother's Day" May 1988




# The Free Will Baptist

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

May, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 5

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Editorial |
| 4 | America's Retreat From Marriage |
| 7 | Blessed Is . . . |
| 9 | Learning Servanthood |
| 10 | The Christian Teacher |
| 12 | For Parents and Other Human Beings |
| 17 | Youth Focus |
| 19 | Children's Corner |
| 20 | Ministries Update |
| 35 | News Briefs |

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern, and Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

# Christians in "Friend's" Clothes

We live in a strange world. For some reason, we have convinced ourselves that "we" are the only folks who really matter. We fail—or refuse—to see the oppression around us. Perhaps we do not look at those who are hurting, sick and in need because in them we may find just cause to feel guilty for our selfishness.

When was the last time you really remembered that there are people in your own neighborhood who are truly hungry? Money may be tight and food is not an option. Joking about overeating and saying that the excess would spoil before it reached Ethiopia just doesn't cut it.

When was the last time you really gave without counting the cost? So what if you were slightly inconvenienced—others may not have anything! How humbled I was when a dear lady prepared me chicken pastry once when I was sick. This dear saint used her last dime to purchase the flour; she brought me dinner—and didn't even know where her next meal would come from. I had been slowed down by a body cast; she, on the other hand, had given her all!

In the late sixties, our country was a virtual tinder box. Hate and anger were openly expressed. Writing during that time, a midwestern newspaper editor said, "We don't need a merciful God. What we need are merciful neighbors." While we always need a merciful God, the point he was trying to make is that we must look beyond our own needs. And times have not changed.

In a fallen world, the need always exists for merciful neighbors. And if we have any doubt about just who our neighbor is, we have only to look at the Good Samaritan. The concept of "neighbor" is central to the gospel. In fact, our neighbors and their needs are the driving forces of the Great Commission.

But instead of reaching out, we raise barriers. However well-intentioned denominationism is, this imperfect human structure keeps us apart. It promotes strong feelings of exclusiveness. Even within denominations, doctrines create dividing lines. Personalities clash—and feelings make it "impossible" for two people of like faith, doctrine and practice to work together. (And we call ourselves Christians!)

Oversimplified, foreign policy has created an East vs. West bout. Affluence raises barriers between haves and have-nots. Skin color, language, sex, height, weight, hair color, job titles, reputations . . . everything seems to divide.

*But,* "there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Without reconciliation, the Christian has no testimony. Our inability to transcend the barriers in our lives will severely limit the credibility of our testimony. Simply put, our love for others reveals whether or not we are phonies.

May we model the relationship Christ created with His blood. "If a merciful God can bring together sinful humanity and godly holiness, merciful neighbors should continue the exercise."

That's the least we can do, neighbor.

# AMERICA'S "RETREAT FROM MARRIAGE"

## Part One

*by Bryce J. Christensen*

Wedding photos sit on the fireplace mantels of millions of American homes, visual reminders of the importance of marriage in ordering our national social life. But the rising generation may have to find something else to place on their mantels and some other way to organize social life. Since 1970, the American marriage rate has dropped 30 percent, while the divorce rate has climbed 50 percent. The average age for first marriage has climbed to 26.8 for men and 24.5 for women. One American in eight now remains unmarried for life. Surveying the statistics, the prominent demographer Robert Schoen discerns a "continuing retreat from marriage" over the past two decades.

Schoen even wonders if we are not witnessing "a fundamental change in the nature of marriage." Thomas Espenshade, of The Urban Institute, has similarly concluded that "marriage is weakening as a social institution in the United States." Stanford scholar Kingsley Davis concurs: "A weakening of marriage is certainly occurring, at least in the sense that matrimony is rapidly becoming less prevalent." Officials at the National Center for Health Statistics report that since 1970 "the status of marriage in America" has been in "steady decline," as "a rising share of eligible people are choosing not to marry." Some observers see the turn away from marriage as simply a natural adjustment to modern life and as no cause for alarm. A closer look reveals that the national decline of marriage is already imposing high social costs, with worse yet to come.

Demographers worried about the nation's low birthrate in recent decades invariably cite the decline of marriage as one of the principal causes.

Leading sociologists fret about growing domestic strain between the generations as a declining number of youthful voters must pay for the Social Security and medical benefits for a growing number of retired elderly. Health authorities at Vanderbilt predict that "intergenerational conflict will intensify" as costs of caring for the elderly climb and as "mother-to-daughter ratios" grow out of balance. America's retreat from marriage not only reduces the number of youthful taxpayers carrying the nation's public-health burdens, it also increases the size of those burdens. Numerous studies prove that married people of all ages—including the elderly—enjoy better physical health than the unmarried.

As frustration, bitterness, and despair impose mounting social and financial costs, the lives of ever more Americans bear emotional scars as fewer marry or stay married. Researchers at the National Institute of Mental Health were recently surprised to learn that young people aged 25-44 report a higher incidence of psychiatric disease than do those over age 65. The retreat from marriage probably accounts for much of the rise of psychological trauma among the young.

Older Americans have consistently stressed marriage and family in defining their purpose for living. Looking back on years spent with spouse and children, married older people naturally enjoy a healthier self-image than do the unmarried and divorced. Nor is it surprising that a recent survey of 19th- and 20th-century obituaries found that average Americans are remembered after death largely for their family ties. But who will visit the graves of generations of Americans who are opting out of marriage and childbearing?

Neglected tombs and empty wombs mark but two of the consequences of the nation's turn away from marriage. Together they signal the prevalence of individualistic philosophies that fail at life's endpoints. Dark realities lie hidden behind the glamorous images of single life popularized in the media and in popular entertainment. Not only are singles less healthy than married people, but they are also disproportionately poorer than married people. Economist Frank Levy notes that they have postponed the decision to marry and have children. He offers a telling analysis: "The result [of fewer and later marriages] was a rapid increase in young singles, many of whom appear to be affluent because they can afford to eat out and cook with shiitake mushrooms. In reality, much of their affluence reflects their lack of a mortgage to pay or children to feed."

**Swinging singles and welfare moms**

Among the diminished number of American babies born each year, an increasing fraction are now illegitimate. Thirty years ago, less than one baby in 20 was illegitimate; now the fraction is one in five. And although much of stigma attached to illegitimacy has vanished, children of unwed mothers still meet life at a disadvantage. In fact, many children of unwed mothers do not get a chance at life at all: for every 1,000 births to unwed women there are 623 abortions, compared to only 90

abortions per 1,000 births to married women.

The innocent victims of America's turn away from marriage, millions of children are growing up in one-parent homes formed through either illegitimacy or divorce. Hard statistics quickly dispel any illusions about "the strength of single-parent families." More than one-third of all children living in female-headed households live below the government's official poverty line, while "many more live marginally close to the poverty level." In contrast, only one in 19 two-parent households live in poverty. Lenore Weitzman reports that "on the average, divorced women and the minor children in their households experience a 73 percent decline in their standard of living in the first year after divorce." The economic picture appears even bleaker for the children of unwed mothers. Three-fifths of all illegitimate children and their mothers must depend on government welfare for a minimal subsistence. Among unwed mothers who turn to the government for support, the average length of welfare dependency is nine years. The depressing pattern persists into the next generation: almost two-thirds of the women brought up in a family that received welfare eventually become welfare recipients themselves, compared to just one-fourth of women raised in families that never received welfare.

Economic deprivation counts as only one of the ills suffered by the children of single-parent households. Criminals rob from single-parent households much more frequently than two-parent households. Even those living next door to single-parent households run higher risks of criminal break-ins than do those living next to two-parent households. Perhaps because they have witnessed a disproportionate number of crimes in growing up, the children of one-parent households turn to crime almost four times as often as do children from two-parent households. With fewer goals in life to strive for, the daughters of one-parent households engage in premarital sex two-and-a-half times more frequently than do their peers from two-parent households. Daughters of one-parent households also express greater willingness to cohabit without marriage, evidently because they view marriage as a risky proposition.

Pressures toward suicide also mount as marriage erodes. Sociologist Steven Stack has shown that "domestic individualism" of American women—measured by their rates of divorce and of unemployment—accounts for much of America's suicide rate. The depressed fertility of single-parent households also increases the likelihood of suicide, since children raised without siblings appear more prone to self-slaughter.

Inevitably, the general public must bear many of the costs of the pathologies caused by the retreat from marriage. Demographer William P. O'Hare predicts sharply higher public welfare costs in the near future because of the rapid multiplication of single-parent households. "Since single-parent families and nonfamily households use welfare at higher rates than married-couple families, these trends will increase the welfare rolls," he writes. Higher costs for police protection, for court proceedings, for prison construction and operation, for Medicaid and Medicare, for remedial education—these and other social burdens will mount because of the retreat from marriage. Even though they require far fewer government services than single-parent households, intact families have been compelled to pay even more taxes to pay for those services.

While married couples chiefly want low taxes, low mortgage rates, and good schools, the unmarried typically demand a wide range of welfare services and subsidies, little worrying about how an expanding welfare state drives up tax and inflation rates. The truly divisive issues in America's future may emerge at "the marriage gap" rather than at the more publicized "gender gap."

**Who killed marriage?**

The catalog of harmful consequences from America's retreat from marriage runs very long. Davis goes so far as to raise the possibility that further erosion of marriage may in fact mean that "industrial societies will not survive." Concerned researchers who have investigated the matter believe they have identified the primary reasons for this retreat. A number of profound cultural developments, stretching back over at least two centuries, have rendered marriage both less attractive and more difficult to maintain. Patterns of American life long defined by religion, agriculture, and community tradition have slowly been displaced by secular, urban, commercial, and individualistic variants.

Since the Industrial Revolution of the late 1700s, the family has surrendered over more of its educational and economic functions to the state or to the marketplace. The normative authority of marriage has naturally suffered in this realignment, especially as traditional religious belief and morality have faded among the culturally elite. In a recent study of Victorian England, intellectual historian Gertrude Himmelfarh traces the declining importance of marriage among Britain's intellectual elite, who "in sex as in art . . . prided themselves on being autonomous and self-contained, free to experiment and express themselves without inhabition or guilt." The revolution in morals was somewhat delayed in America, but is now quite widespread.

(Turn the Page)

Despite these long-term trends, however, Davis is right to insist that "compared to most other aspects of human society, marriage has changed surprisingly little" since the 1700s. Indeed, Davis supposes that "the weakening of marriage as an institution" did not become particularly pronounced in the United States until the end of World War II. Even the sudden eruption of divorce that occurred during the late 1940s can be partially explained as an aberration, an after-effect of the war that was quickly erased by the fervid domesticity of the 1950s. Contemporary sociologists need look no further back than the early 1960s to find "relatively early and widespread marriage, relative low divorce rates and relatively high fertility" in the United States.

In retrospect, though, the remarkable blooming of marriage and family during the 1950s was largely a cut-flower illusion. After a decade and a half of depression and war, Americans were eager to spend their newly won prosperity in a family way but were not willing to reverse the deep-seated historical forces that were eroding the family's place in society. By the late 1960s and early 1970s, identifiable new forces were grievously exacerbating the long-term trends. Particularly deserving attention are five new influences, all of them either engendered or emboldened by imprudent government actions.

Beginning with the founding of *Playboy* in 1953, the publishers of "girly" magazines and of hard-core pornography began a surprisingly strong and effective attack upon marriage. In his very first issue of *Playboy,* editor Hugh Hefner emphasized that "we aren't a family magazine." Subsequent issues repeatedly ridiculed marriage as a "bondage of breadwinning" and an impediment to sexual fulfillment. In *The Rape of the A*P*E** (*American *Puritan *Ethic), published in 1973 by Playboy Press, Allan Sherman chronicled the "obscening of America" and the passing of the "incredibly clean-cut and impossibly wholesome" American culture of the 1950s. After the sex revolution which *Playboy* helped foment, "nothing was reduced to less recognizable rubble than the revered . . . Institution of Marriage." In fact, Sherman boasted that by 1973 "it was getting increasingly difficult to explain why marriage was necessary at all." Much more recently, Christie Hefner—daughter of Hugh Hefner and now president of Playboy Enterprises—has justified her own place in the feminist movement by arguing that *Playboy* helped pave the way to feminism by pioneering the rebellion against oppressive and restrictive family roles. "The things *Playboy* really believes in," she affirms, "are the same kinds of ideas that have been embraced by most of the progressive movements, including the women's movement." Hefner counters the hostile views of those feminists who consider *Playboy* an "enemy" by pointing out that in the early 60s *Playboy* was the most influential force in mass communications and in financing for the revolution in abortion laws and birth control."

In a major Justice Department study of pornography, Judith Reisman argues that the eroticism found in *Playboy*—and *Penthouse* and *Hustler*—has grown more violent over the last 30 years and less respectful of the distinction between adults and children. In her view, *Playboy* has helped foster a cultural climate of "mutual distrust" and "heterophobia" between the sexes. Perhaps government censorship could not have put *Playboy* out of business (though Hugh Hefner at first feared that possibility), but a 1966 Supreme Court ruling made it very difficult for local authorities to ban even the hard-core obscenity carried in the smutty flotilla that rode in *Playboy's* wake. In the case of *A Book Named "John Cleland's Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure" v. Attorney General of Massachusetts* (popularly known the "Fanny Hill" case), the court articulated a "three-pronged value" test for obscenity cases, ruling that in order for any material to be banned as pornographic, prosecutors had to show that: 1) It appeals to prurient interests; 2) it is patently offensive; 3) it is "utterly without redeeming social value." Prosecutors soon learned that the third prong, the "redeeming social value" test, made it almost impossible to stop the flood of smut. *Playboy's* own devolution, traced by Dr. Reisman, could have been predicted as its competitors grew in number and depravity.

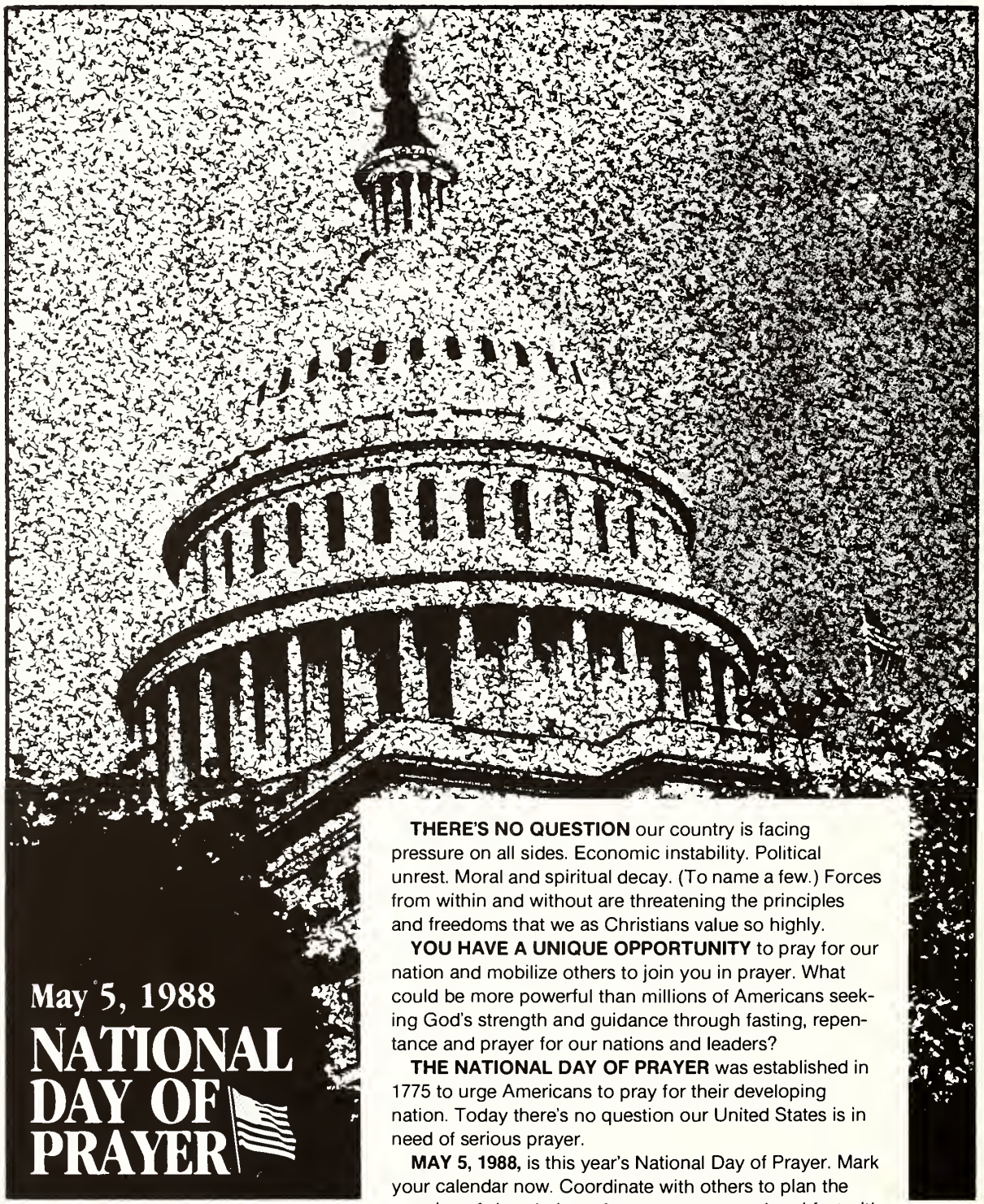
Even as court-induced paralysis prevented officials from stopping the flood of pornographic pollution, radical environmentalists succeeded in persuading government leaders of the need to protect the country's forests and wildlife against the unrestrained fertility of traditional families. Partly because of groundless fears about "the population bomb," policymakers deliberately turned against the family by shifting the nation's tax burden. Between 1960 and 1984, while the tax rate remained essentially flat for singles and childless two-earner couples, one-earner couples with two children saw their federal taxes rise by 43 percent while one-earner couples with four children witnessed a phenomenal 223 percent hike. This unprecedented shift in tax responsibility occurred at the very time that the traditional family was also paying markedly higher payroll taxes for Social Security. Since Social Security actually favors the deliberately childless at the expense of parents, the system further discourages marriage, childbearing, and family life.

(Continued Next Month)



Blessed is the mother . . .
Who can hold onto her children
while letting them go;
Who puts a tranquil home ahead of
an immaculate house;
Who knows a kind act will be
remembered longer than an easy word;
Who really believes that prayer
changes things;
Whose faith in the future sweetens
the present;
Whose Bible never needs dusting;
Whose sense of humor is alive and
well.

# ONE NATION UNDER PRESSURE




**THERE'S NO QUESTION** our country is facing pressure on all sides. Economic instability. Political unrest. Moral and spiritual decay. (To name a few.) Forces from within and without are threatening the principles and freedoms that we as Christians value so highly.

**YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY** to pray for our nation and mobilize others to join you in prayer. What could be more powerful than millions of Americans seeking God's strength and guidance through fasting, repentance and prayer for our nations and leaders?

**THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** was established in 1775 to urge Americans to pray for their developing nation. Today there's no question our United States is in need of serious prayer.

**MAY 5, 1988,** is this year's National Day of Prayer. Mark your calendar now. Coordinate with others to plan the opening of church doors for prayer, a prayer breakfast with government officials or a rally on your state capitol's steps.

Use your influence to help call all Americans to embrace one of our greatest freedoms—**TO PRAY.**

For National Day of Prayer promotional materials contact: National Day of Prayer Task Force, P.O. Box 6826, San Bernardino, CA 92412. (714) 882-9932.

## "SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD" (MARK 14:8).

Many Christian women are content to come to church and hear about God's Word but reluctant to go and do what He requires of them. God expects deeds on earth, and knowledge will not be accepted as a substitute. Christian women should *do* as well as *know* what Christ commands. Each one has a place to fill and abilities that may be used in the Kingdom of God. "There's a place for every worker in the vineyard of the Lord!" A Christian woman should remember that she is not doing God a favor by serving Him: God honors each Christian woman by permitting her to serve Him. God has a place for every one of His people. Seeking His guidance, each Christian will find that place. To be of real service, Christians must give God something that cannot be bought or measured with money: *a sincere heart.* This Florence Walston Skinner has done. Florence has sought God's guidance and has found her place of service time and time again. She also found and used the 4 Ms of serving her Lord.

*The Method of Service:* "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only . . ." (James 1:22). "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" (John 2:5). When Jesus calls, He wants us to be obedient and to respond immediately as His disciples did; they forsook all and followed Him. Florence has shown to us the Method of Service by being a doer through the years.

*The Motive of Service:* "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Love for Christ is the only acceptable motive in service. Love for Christ is the constraining force that causes us to continue to serve even when we see no fruits of our service and perhaps amidst the most adverse circumstances. We certainly have seen Florence demonstrate Motive of Service by her daily life.

*The Means of Service:* "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). What a difference it makes when Christ directs what we do. Jesus said, "Without me ye can do nothing." Many times we feel so weak in the flesh that we just can't speak to that lost friend about her soul, or sing that special song, or make a talk; but when we depend upon the Lord instead of self, we will find strength. Florence found her means in Christ her Lord.

*The Manner of Service:* "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily" (Colossians 3:23). If Christians were as slothful in the service rendered to their employer, and were as irregular on their jobs and as late in getting to their jobs, they would get fired in less than a week. Whatever our place of service, we should enter into his service willingly and gladly. If we can serve in some capacity, we should not have to be begged or coaxed to do so. Florence's manner of service has been heard time and time again when she has answered a call by saying: "Yes, I'll do the best that I can." This is all that Christ requires of us.

Olivia Bass, Blanche Cook, Doretha Daniel, Jenny Hayes, Sudie Mixon, Pearl Morris, Mary Narron, Kathleen Pipkin, Lucille Poythress, Mozelle Price, Hilda Sasser, Daisy Sullivan, Muriel Tomlinson, Agnes Vester, and Alberta Pridgen, who just recently went home to be with our Lord: All of these women became Life Members by being an active member of the local auxiliary for fifteen years or more and being over fifty years of age. To this list, the name Florence Skinner has been added.

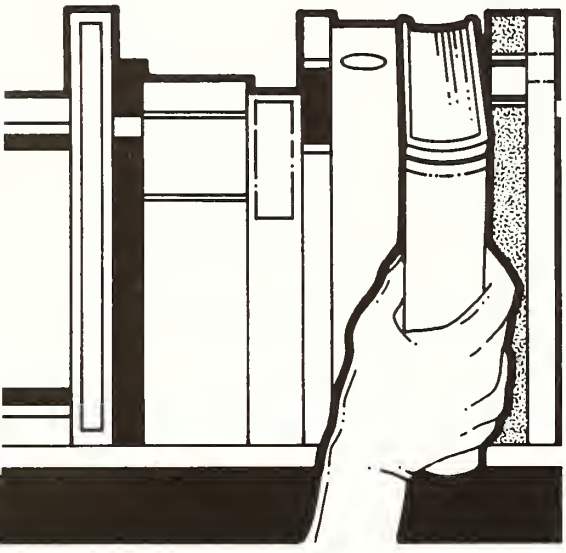
Today we are honoring one of our own by presenting to her a Life Membership Award and Pin from the First Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary for her loyal faithful service since 1953. Over the past thirty-five years, she has served well the positions of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Missions Chairman, Youth Chairman, Study Course Chairman, YFA Leader, GA Leader, BA Leader, Circle Chairman, and Assistant Circle Chairman.

Also while we are presenting the Life Membership Pin, her husband is presenting her with the Woman's Auxiliary Pin to which it attaches.

Mrs. Skinner is the mother of the Rev. Doug Skinner.



The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Church of Wilson recently honored Mrs. Florence Skinner with the Life Membership Award. Mrs. Gwen Ferrell, vice president, presented the award and Mrs. Eunice Boykin, president, pinned Mrs. Skinner. Following is the tribute presented by Mrs. Ferrell.



## MEANINGFUL BIBLE STUDY FOR TEACHERS

*by Bass Mitchell*

One of the things every teacher in the church must be able to do is study and understand the Bible. The Bible is the source book of all Christian teaching. Every lesson we teach is based to some extent upon the Word of God. So, it's imperative that we know how to go about studying it.

### READ IT!

It's not unusual to have teachers who have never read the whole Bible. If you're one of them, you need to begin a systematic reading of the Bible.

There are many ways to go about this. A way that worked for me is simply reading one whole book at a time. For example, the first night you read all of Genesis. The next night you can read all of Matthew. Alternate between the Old and New Testament. In sixty-six days you should be finished.

It's important that you be familiar with the content of the whole Bible. You then can draw upon more of its teachings in each lesson.

### " A WONDROUS STORY"

That's not only a good description for the contents of the Bible, it's a great expression of just how the Bible came to us.

Teachers need to know this story. It's fascinating and inspiring. Not only will it increase your knowledge of how it came to us, your appreciation of it will grow.

The story begins with those faithful servants who were inspired by the Spirit to write down the things they saw and heard. It shows us dedicated monks working in lonely monasteries to make copies of the sacred writings. We learn about courageous men who often risked and lost their lives because of their work to get the Bible into the language of the people. It's a story that will move you and one that you'll never forget.

There are some excellent resources for learning about the history of the Bible. "How Our Bible Came to Us" is a five-part filmstrip series from the American Bible Society. It would make an excellent addition to your church library and a great elective for youth through adult classes.

There are some good books on the subject. William Barclay has written two: *The Making of the Bible* and *Introducing the Bible.* Edgar Goodspeed's book, *How Our Bible Came to Us,* is also very good.

If you want a more detailed account of how the Bible came to us in English, read, *History of the Bible in English,* by F. F. Bruce.

### FIVE ESSENTIAL TOOLS

My father was a carpenter. He was good at it. One reason why was because he knew what tools to use and he knew how to use them.

Studying the Bible is similar to this. In order to really "dig" into it, we must know what tools are available and how to use them. Below you will find some information on five such tools that every teacher should have and be able to use.

### TRANSLATIONS

One of the best resources for studying the Bible is the Bible itself! No book has been studied more. No book has been translated into more languages. For many centuries, dedicated men and women have studied the original languages and worked diligently at putting them into our own tongue.

You should keep several translations of the Bible at your elbow as you study. When you come to a verse that's unclear, refer to other translations. Often this will clarify it. Even when a verse or passage is readily understandable, read it in other translations. It just might be that they will bring out meaning you did not see.

Some good translations are: *King James Version,* the *New King James Version, Revised Standard Version, Good News Bible, New English Bible, Jerusalem Bible, New International Version,* and many others made by individuals.

In recent years books having four or more versions in one volume have come out. They are in parallel columns for easy reference. Check your local Christian bookstore and see what they have. This will save you some money.

There are many so-called "study Bibles" being printed today. These can be quite helpful. You should look over all of them and pick out one that's right for you. I have found that *The Oxford Annonated Bible* is a very good study Bible.

### CONCORDANCE

A concordance is simply a list of all the words in the Bible and where they can be found. Some concordances have added features that can be quite helpful, especially for word studies and tracing themes throughout the Bible.

There are three very popular concordances. One is by Cruden, another by Strong, and the last by Young. Cruden's is the least expensive and a basic concordance. The ones by Strong and Young are much larger and have additional study aids. For example, Strong's has an index that lets you research the original Hebrew and Greek words and their meanings.

Topical concordances are also available. These have subject headings that list all the verses relating to that topic. I have found this especially helpful in doing Sunday School lessons. The one I use is *Harper's Topical Concordance.*

### BIBLE DICTIONARY

If I could have only one Bible study resource, it would be a good Bible dictionary. It's a resource that provides you with invaluable information on every name, person, place, event, word, and book in the Bible. It's an absolute necessity for meaningful Bible study.

There are many kinds of dictionaries available. Some give only the barest facts, while others give more information than you could ever use.

One of the best dictionaries I've found for teachers is *Harper's Bible Dictionary,* edited by Paul Achtemeier. It's a very readable and thorough reference tool.

The best Bible dictionary is the *Interpreter's Bible Dictionary.* It's in five volumes. I use it more than any other resource. However, it may be too technical in some ways for persons who haven't had courses on the Bible.

### BIBLE ATLAS

The stories in the Bible took place at specific places and in specific countries. In order to fully understand and teach those stories, we need to know something about those places.

A Bible atlas is much more than a collection of maps. That's its main purpose. However, it also provides information on how Bible people lived, the climate, the layout or topography of the land, farming, and recent archaeological excavations—including pictures of the sites. Also, it provides helpful maps showing, for example, the possible routes the Israelites took on the Exodus.

Some study Bibles have excellent maps and an index for locating places. This is one of the features you should look for in an adequate study Bible. This would be adequate for you unless you want the kind of information listed above.

I recommend the *Oxford Bible Atlas,* by H. G. may. It has excellent maps and a great deal of information on what we are learning about the land of the Bible.

### BIBLE COMMENTARIES

A commentary is simply a book that "comments" on the Bible. Its aim is to explain Bible passages and sometimes to suggest ways that it relates to modern life.

There are one-volume commentaries available that cover the whole Bible in one book. Two good ones are: *The Interpreter's One Volume Commentary,* edited by Charles Laymon, and the *Jerome Bible Commentary,* by Brown, Fitzmyer, and Murphy.

Sets of commentaries are available. One of the most popular is *The Daily Study Bible,* by William Barclay. It's just on the New Testament. A series on the Old Testament is now being written by different authors.

The following are some other sets of commentaries: *The Interpreter's Bible, The Broadman Bible Commentary, The Layman's Bible Commentary, The Cambridge Bible Commentary, The New Century Bible, Tyndale Bible Commentary,* and many others.

Here's how I purchase commentaries. I look at the upcoming lessons. If, for example, they are on Genesis, I'll buy one or two commentaries on Genesis. This way I get resources I will use right away and do not spend a lot of money to do it. In just a few years I've collected some good commentaries on most of the Bible.

### WHAT NOW?

So you've got all these resources. What do you do with them? How can you use them for meaningful Bible study?

Let me share one of the best ways I've found to study the Bible and make good use of these tools.

Suppose you're studying the passage for the next Sunday School lesson. Get some paper. On the left side of it list every name, place, phrase, and word in the passage, especially those that are unfamiliar to you. Leave space between each word. Now use your Bible study tools to research each word. Write down the information in the space to the right of the words.

Don't throw these notes away. Put them in a notebook for future reference. Chances are you will study that passage again.

**Studying the Bible** can be sheer enjoyment, especially when new truths and insights are discovered. These discoveries will be more frequent as you learn more about how to study the Bible and master the use of basic Bible study tools.

# THE PRIVATE LIFE OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY

## 50,000 WOMEN SPEAK OUT

*by Susan Jacoby*

**How do women really feel about their marriage, their family?**

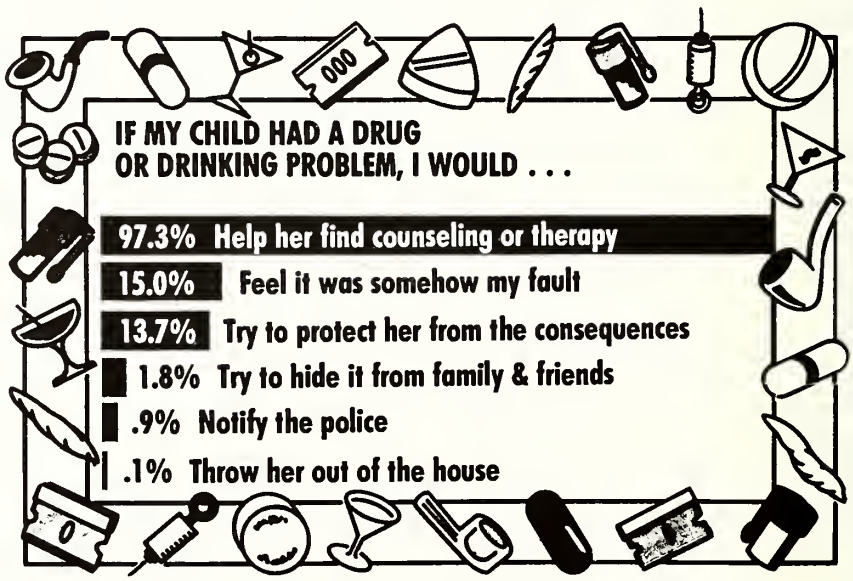
**A major survey of readers demonstrates a high level of satisfaction with marriage and parenthood—coupled with the realization that families are buffeted by a variety of social pressures that were much less severe, or scarcely existed, a generation ago.**

**Nearly 50,000 women responded to a questionnaire done by *Family Circle* magazine (February 10, 1987), and many attached lengthy personal letters. One Oklahoma mother of three spoke for many readers: "I realize that I am a very lucky woman. But I look at some of our friends—good people who have lost a child to drugs or alcohol, or whose lives are filled with marital strife—and I can't feel smug. I think, 'There, but for the grace of God, go I.' "**

One of our survey's strongest findings is a general willingness among readers to seek outside professional help for troubles that seem too big for a family to handle alone. And perhaps surprisingly, when faced with such problems as teenage pregnancy and alcohol or drug abuse, older women are more likely than young women to be open to nontraditional solutions.

All in all, our survey reveals a significant departure from attitudes that prevailed as recently as 25 years ago.

- Only 2% of the women responding viewed marriage as a desirable solution if a teenage daughter became pregnant or a son got a girl pregnant. A majority of mothers (approximately 56%), however, said they would support any decision their child made in this situation.
- Women were sharply divided on the advice they would offer a pregnant daughter. "Is there any *good* solution for this?" asked a Long Island, New York, mother of three teenage girls. The most frequent choice—of about 30%—was to encourage the girl to have the baby and then to give the child up for adoption.
- Overall, about 12% of women said they would encourage their pregnant teenager to have an abortion; nearly 7% said they would offer to pay for it. But middle-aged women were far more likely to favor abortion than younger women. Three times as many readers between ages 45 and 65 (21.7%) opted for abortion as did those from ages 26 through 35. *None* of the women under 26 chose abortion as a solution.
- When asked what they would do if a child had a drug or drinking problem, an overwhelming 95% of mothers said they would help the child find professional counseling or therapy. Over 85% also said they would encourage an alcoholic or drug-using husband to enter therapy.
- Less than 2% said they would place a high priority on trying to hide a child's drinking or drug abuse from family and friends.




Note: Because readers were allowed up to 2 choices, the total exceeds 100%.

## How Our Attitudes Have Changed

Harvey L. White, M.D., author of *Your Family Is Good for You* (Random House) and director of family therapy training at St. Luke's Hospital Center in New York City, sees these responses as evidence of the growing recognition "that healthy families can have serious problems—and that it doesn't mean you're a failure or that the trouble can't be overcome.

"A willingness to seek outside help isn't the whole answer to the problems families face today," Dr. White emphasizes. "But it is a statement that people don't believe in sweeping things under the rug. The willingness to say, 'Let's work on this problem; let's get help,' is an indication of family strength—not weakness."

The rejection of "shotgun marriage" as an answer to teenage pregnancy was seen by other family specialists as a significant break with the values most mothers would have espoused a generation ago.

"We don't have the surveys to tell us exactly what our mothers and grandmothers would have said," notes Susan Toliver, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology and women's studies at Hunter College, "but I think everyone remembers girls who 'had to get married.' "

Dr. Toliver, who compiled the survey statistics for *Family Circle,* suggests that the responses reveal "a real awareness that marriage is hard work under the best of circumstances." She concludes that the women who answered our survey "are more concerned with their children's future than with covering up a 'scandal.' I think this is part of a larger recognition that no marriage at all is preferable to a miserable marriage made for the wrong reasons."

Regardless of their race or income level, the women responding to the survey displayed remarkably similar attitudes on most matters concerning family life. Age, however, was a significant distinguishing factor on a number of issues.

- As women get older, the desire for a large family seems to decrease. More than half the women from ages 18 through 25 said their ideal family would consist of four children; a majority of those from 26 through 35 (47%) opted for three children; most women from 36 through 45 (about 37%) chose a two-child family.
- Older women indicated they would be less likely than younger women to take an elderly parent or in-law into their home. Nearly 80% of women under 26 said that if the elderly relative could no longer live alone, they would take him or her into their own home; only 60% of women from ages 26 through 35 and about 57% of those between 46 and 65 said they would do so. Nearly 14% of the younger women—but less than 4% of the older ones—said they would never, under any circumstance, put a parent in a nursing home.
- As for allowing a pregnant teenage daughter to raise her baby at home, over 40% of women under 26—and 28% between 26 and 35—said they would do so. Yet less than 18% of women between ages 46 and 65 chose that option. (The older group was much more likely to encourage abortion or some other solution.)

Dr. Toliver suggests several reasons for the differing responses of younger and older women. "One obvious explanation is that the older women have more real-life experience and therefore would not wish the hardship of raising a baby on a teenage daughter," she says. "When you're 25 and haven't raised a child, you're not likely to have a full realization of what it would mean to a young girl to have to be responsible for an infant.

"Also, this is a period of very high regard for old-fashioned values in our society," Dr. Toliver notes. "While growing up, many young women have been affected by disturbing social changes like the rising divorce rate. They vow that it's all going to be perfect for them. Unlike their mothers, they're going to get it exactly right. So they imagine the perfect family, with Mom always taking care of the needs of the young and the old. They don't realize how hard this is to achieve."

JoAnn Magdoff, Ph.D., a New York City psychotherapist, offers another theory about the differing responses of young and middle-aged women: "Young women are apt to say what they think will please others," she observes, "while mature women are much more likely to say what they truly think and feel. A woman in her 40's or 50's might well say, 'Yes, I know a good daughter, wife and mother is supposed to be all things to all people—but I also know that I can't be everything to everyone. I can do this much, and no more.' "

## Part-Time Versus Full-Time Jobs

On most issues in the survey, there was virtually no difference between the opinions of women who hold jobs outside their homes and women who are at home full-time. But *in attitude toward work,* there was a marked difference between women with full-time jobs and those who work part-time.

Overall, more than two out of three women said they would prefer to stay at home with their children if it were economically

(Turn the Page)

possible for them to do so. But among those women with full-time, 35-to-40-hour-a-week jobs, nearly 55% said they would not want to quit work to be at home.

"I'd like my life to be less hectic," said a Chicago hospital administrator who is the mother of an 8-month-old girl, "but my work is so satisfying to me that I wouldn't give it up under any circumstances. We do need the money, but that isn't my main reason for working, I really love my job."

Such responses run counter to conventional wisdom that suggests most mothers would prefer part-time work. Nevertheless, Dr. Toliver says she is not surprised by these answers. "Unfortunately, people who work part-time are underpaid in comparison to full-time workers," she notes. "Women with part-time jobs generally don't get the kind of respect, promotions and career satisfaction that full-time workers do."

**IF IT WERE POSSIBLE, I WOULD QUIT MY JOB TO STAY HOME WITH MY CHILDREN:**

(Number of hours worked outside the home each week)

| | 35 to 40 | 20 to 34 | 10 to 19 | 10 or less | none | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| YES | 45.1% | 61.9% | 67% | 96.3% | 88.6% | 67.6% |
| NO | 54.9% | 38.1% | 32.9% | 3.7% | 11.4% | 32.4% |

Note: More than 30% of the women in our survey work outside the home full-time; about 40% work part-time. The rest, nearly 29%, do not have outside jobs.

**IF MY UNMARRIED TEENAGE DAUGHTER GOT PREGNANT, I WOULD:**

(Age of respondents)

| | 18-25 | 26-35 | 36-45 | 46-64 | over 65 | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Support whatever decision she made | 73.2 | 59.9 | 53.3 | 54.3 | 50 | 56.5 |
| Encourage her to put baby up for adaption | 14.6 | 31.6 | 33.4 | 27.2 | 0 | 30 |
| Allow her to raise baby in our home | 41.5 | 28.4 | 24 | 17.4 | 20 | 24.3 |
| Encourage her to have the baby | 26.8 | 24.3 | 22.4 | 20.3 | 0 | 22.4 |
| Encourage her to have an abortion | 0 | 7 | 11.6 | 21.7 | 30 | 12.5 |
| Offer to pay for an abortion | 12.2 | 3.8 | 2.8 | 12.7 | 60 | 6.7 |
| Offer to raise the baby myself | 0 | 5.3 | 6.6 | 2.5 | 0 | 4.8 |
| Insist that she marry the boy | 0 | 2.9 | .8 | 2.9 | 0 | 2 |
| Insist that she move out of the house | Response too small to be statistically significant | | | | | |

Note: Because readers were allowed up to 3 choices, the total exceeds 100%.

Responses to a question concerning an unmarried teenage son who got a girl pregnant were similar to those concerning a pregnant unmarried daughter. Yet a total of 63.8% of readers said they would support whatever decision their son made, as opposed to only 56.5% who would support a daughter's decision.

## What Wives Most Want in a Husband

Women of all ages, races and economic levels were united about what pleases and displeases them about their husbands. What do they like most? An overwhelming majority (more than 61%) said, "He lets me know he loves me."

Three answers were allowed on this question, and a husband's status as a "good provider" was the second most popular selection (the choice of approximately 42%). Not surprisingly, women with annual household incomes of more than $30,000 are more apt to cite their husbands as good providers than those with lower incomes—but even in this latter group, a husband's abilities as a breadwinner prove less important than his ability to make his wife feel loved.

The most frequent sore points women list about their husbands: "He doesn't do enough around the house"; "He sulks when hurt or angry"; "He loses his temper too

easily"; "He won't talk to me." Only a small proportion of wives—less than 5%—complain that their husband flirts with other women.

What happens after a quarrel? An overwhelming majority of women—nearly 70%—said that the last time they fought with their husbands, "we didn't speak for a while." Nearly 15% reported that "one of us left the house," and about 9.5% reported that "one of us withheld sex." Striking out physically at each other is apparently not common. Only 1.1% of wives said, "He hit me"; 0.6% said, "I hit him."

"Getting my husband to talk to me is like pulling teeth," said a psychiatric social worker from Pasadena, California. "Encouraging people to open up is my business, but it doesn't work at home. I always want to talk about why we quarrel, and he never does. When he's over being mad, he just wants to go on as if we never had a fight. It drives me nuts that he thinks just saying, 'I love you' resolves everything. Well, I tell myself it's a lot better than his saying, 'I hate you.' "

## Dealing With the Kids

Husbands have somewhat more difficulty expressing open love and affection toward their children than they do toward their wives, according to the women in our survey.

More than 80% of mothers said they most commonly express affection for their children by hugging, patting or kissing them—but only about 50% said their husbands do the same.

More significantly, nearly one out of four women said their husbands do not openly express affection for the children at all. In sharp contrast, only about 2% of the mothers indicated that they too withhold open affection.

Dr. White of St. Luke's describes these responses "as one more indication that the traditional strong, silent, suppressed type of man is alive and well in America today." But he adds, "In a way, I think it's surprising that only one out of four women said their husbands don't openly express affection for the kids. That means three out of four women have husbands who *do* seem to show affection. I'm certain that in such a survey 25 years ago you would have found a lot more of these distant fathers. Distance used to be expected of fathers."

In disciplining children, readers believe in talking rather than in physical punishment. More than 56% of women said that in a specific instance of disobedience they would talk to a child about it. More than 38% said they would also suspend one of the child's privileges. Less than 10% chose spanking as a means of punishment.

## Family Time

One disturbing—though hardly surprising—finding in the survey is the importance of television-watching in the day-to-day life of most families.

Asked how they spend time alone with their husbands, two out of three women listed watching television as their most frequent activity. Slightly more than half said they talk with their husbands when they're alone; about 40% said the two of them go out for a meal.

Television also tops the list (at 60%) of family activities involving the children. Talking is a distant second (30%), followed by eating out (about 25%) and playing sports or games (20%).

Many readers expressed their concern about the amount of time their families spend watching television and have devised ways to keep TV time under control. [*See "34 Things To Do With Your Kids (Besides Watching TV!),"* page 162.]

"I'm not totally against TV," said a 46-year-old mother of four from Calimesa, California, "but I do think there's a real problem in this country when watching television replaces the talking and active things a family can do together. You have to control it, not have it control you."

Many women also said they try to use television programs dealing with sensitive subjects like teenage pregnancy, AIDS or Alzheimer's disease to stimulate discussions with their children.

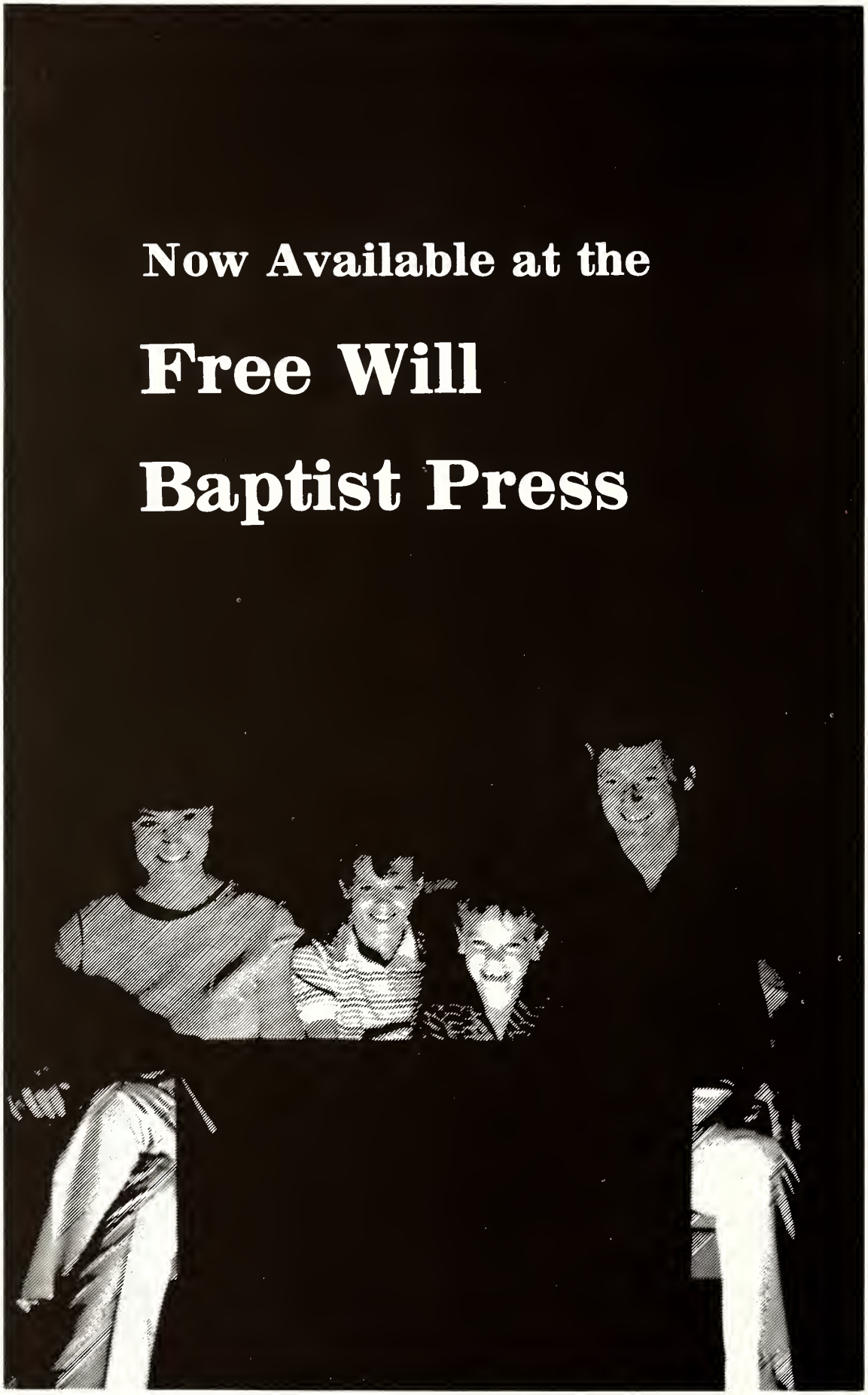
## The Good Old Days?

In their accompanying letters, many women expressed their pleasure at being able to communicate with children and husbands about subjects once considered taboo.

"People are always talking about how much happier families used to be and how much easier it was to raise children," said a Long Island, New York, mother of three boys. "In some ways that's true. Certainly, the world seemed to be less dangerous when I was growing up than it does today.

"But there was plenty of family trouble in the past—divorce, alcoholism, out-of-wedlock pregnancy, you name it. The difference now is that people try to face up to problems instead of hiding them. I thought very hard about that question of what I would do if one of my sons got a girl pregnant, and what advice I'd give him. And I realized one thing: Although there's no pat answer, I'd very much want my sons to come to me and my husband. And I really believe they would. That, to me, is a genuine strength of families today."

Reprinted from *Family Circle*, August, 1987.




**FOCUS ON THE FAMILY,** by Dr. James C. Dobson, helps you face and tackle the problems you think are only happening in your family! This series has been seen in over 30,000 churches by by some 15 million people.

1. **The Strong-Willed Child**—Childish irresponsibility vs. willful defiance. Understanding your guilt when discipling your child. 63 minutes.
2. **Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit**—How to associate behavior with consequences. When to let go of your child and how. 60 minutes.
3. **Christian Fathering**—If America survives, it will be because fathers begin to put their families at the highest level of priority. 61 minutes.
4. **Preparing for Adolescence: The Origin of Self-Doubt**—The secrets of self-esteem 50 minutes.
5. **Preparing for Adolescence: Peer Pressure and Sexuality**—Physical changes, sexual development. 48 minutes.
6. **What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women**—Dr. Dobson discusses the principles of a secure, healthy marriage as well as some common difficulties. He deals especially with women's struggles with depression and low self-esteem and couples' problems with money and romance. 49 minutes.
7. **What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women, Part II.** 34 minutes.

**Rental:** $4 per night; $15 a week.



# CONVENTION PERSONALITIES

The nationally acclaimed ventriloquist team of Anita and David will appear at the 1988 State Youth Convention.

Anita Reaves, the "voice" for David, began her ventriloquist career while in fifth grade, using a doll that was a Christmas present. She practiced and perfected her talent, almost on a daily basis, utilizing local Sunday School children and church groups for her audiences.

In 1973, her parents purchased "David" from a Professional Theatrical Company in Colorado and presented him to Anita. They've been an inspiring and inspirational team ever since.

Anita and David have shared center stage with many of the top names in gospel music: The Kingsmen, The Hoppers, The Talley's, The Gold City Quartet, Wendy Bagwell and the Sunlighters, and many more.

During the past year, Anita and David have appeared at the prestigious National Quartet Convention in Nashville, Tennessee; the 14th Annual Spirit of the Shenandoah Camp Meeting in Pipestem, West Virginia; and the traditional New Year's Eve Celebration at the renowned Plain and Fancy Restaurant in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

In 1986, Anita and David signed with Hopper/Sing Records, a division of the Hopper Brothers Publishing Company. They have released their first cassette entitled "Anita and David—Live at Pipestem," which was produced and engineered by Dean Hopper. The cassette includes humorous verbal exchanges between Claude Hopper, Jim Hamill, Tim Riley, Wendy Bagwell, and of course Anita and David; plus it captures the excitement of the audience and their spontaneous response as Anita and David reach both their hearts and their funny bones.

Claude Hopper, president of Hopper Sing and the individual who has "adopted" Anita and David and played a leading role in catapulting this duo into national prominence, says, "Anita and David are the best ventriloquist team I have ever seen. Anita's wit, charm and countrified personality, combined with her love for Christ, will endear her to anyone she comes in contact with. They will complement any program or function with which they are associated."

When a reporter asked Anita how she'd like best to be remembered, she replied, "A servant of God who gave the message that salvation is a gift to be received, not a goal to be obtained."

Anita and David have relocated to Madison, North Carolina, where they have become a part of Hopper-Sing Productions.




## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY, MAY 13**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5:00 | P.M. | Registration—College Hall |
| 6:00 | P.M. | Supper—New Campus |
| 5:00—6:00 | P.M. | Registration of Arts and Crafts —College Hall, Classroom B |
| 6:30 | P.M. | Practice for Talent Show—College Hall (Auditorium Open Only to Talent Show Participants, 6:30—7:45 p.m.) |

**SATURDAY, MAY 14**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:30 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 8:30 | A.M. | Registration at College Hall for Those Not Yet Registered |
| 9:00—10:00 | A.M. | Business Session—College Hall |
| 1:00 | P.M. | Registration for Those Not Yet Registered—College Hall |
| 1:30 | P.M. | Afternoon Business Session—College Hall |

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00 | A.M. | Breakfast—Downtown Campus |
| 10:00 | A.M. | Morning Worship—Rodgers Chapel |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Cost of meals provided by Mount Olive College Cafeteria will be $2, breakfast; and $3, lunch and supper.

Cost of lodging overnight will be $6 per person per night.

Guests must bring their own pillows, blankets, linens, bath cloths, towels, soap, money for meals and snacks, Bible, notebook and pencil, and casual clothes for the weekend.

The Free Will Baptist Press and Mount Olive College bookstores will be open on Saturday.

Rooms will be assigned in order as registration forms are received (first received, first served).

Money for lodging should be sent with a $20 registration fee (per church) by May 1, 1988.

Meal tickets will be sold at College Hall at time of registration.

No refunds.

No candy, gum, etc. may be used in campaigning.

No skateboards, please!

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Church _____

Address _____

_____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at the Convention (at least one adult male and one adult female; and they must be supervised at all times!):

_____

Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight:

| | Total | x $6 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Friday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Males (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| **Saturday** | | | |
| Males (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Males (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (12 and under) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Females (13 and up) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Registration fee (per church) | | | $20.00 |

Total amount enclosed _____

Total number of youth and adults eating meals provided by MOC cafeteria.

| | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|
| Breakfast | _____* | _____ | _____ |
| Lunch | _____ | _____ | _____* |
| Supper | _____ | _____ | _____* |

*No meals served at this time

Meal tickets sold at College Hall on Friday, 5:00 P.M.

Registration forms, along with lodging money and registration fee, should be sent to:

Wallie Hargrove
Route 3, Box 294
Ayden, NC 28513
(919) 746-3534

# THE BODY BOOK

No matter how many times you read the Bible, you learn something new. While reading the Book of Proverbs, I noticed something that I had never paid any attention to before. As I read the first chapter, I began to notice how many times a part of the human body is mentioned. I then read Chapters 2 and 3 and was amazed to find even more mention of the body. "This is really getting exciting," I thought. I'm sure you can guess what I did next. You're right! Curiosity got the best of me. I read the rest of Proverbs and, guess what, every chapter except *one* contained references to the human body. If you are as curious as I am, you're wondering which one that is, right? To find out, follow the directions below.

1. Write the name of the part of the body found in Proverbs 4:20.

   _____

2. Write the name of the body part in Proverbs 6:5.

   _____

3. Write the name of the body part in Proverbs 6:24.

   _____

4. Write the name of the body part in Proverbs 7:23.

   _____

5. Now take the first letter of number 1, the third letter of number 2, the third letter of number 3, and the second letter of number 4. Write these on this line: _____

6. Unscramble the letters in number 5 and you will have your answer.

   _____

Parts of the body are mentioned 15 times in Chapter 4! Count the ones in Chapter 6. You will be surprised!





## van der Plas Family to Return to the Philippines

*by Kathy D. Bateman*

Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

Mount Olive College has been truly blessed to have the van der Plas family—Willem, Lydia and their son, Dirk, on campus this year.

While part-time students at the College, Willem and Lydia have served as apartment residence directors. Dirk is a full-time student and a member of the Mount Olive College Singers.

Soon our families will part to a degree as Willem and Lydia return to mission work in the Philippines. Dirk will remain at Mount Olive College to study theology and psychology.

Willem recently addressed Mount Olive College's students, faculty and staff about the message he and Lydia will take with them to the Philippines when they return on May 24.

"I'd like to tell them that . . . 'The kingdom of God is within you,' " quoted Willem from Luke 17:21. "The Kingdom of God is in the midst of you, now, today, here where you go, live and work."

van der Plas said, "I believe there is a whole world of people in suffering, waiting in hope for better times or a better life."

He said it is important to realize that we can create our own "promised land" here on earth if we will share the love of God with others. "We say we're too poor to share or to give, but if we wait to share until we are rich enough then we will always feel ourselves too poor to give."

He said the crusades of today have to come through us and by us. "Where there is poverty in the Philippines we hope to bring expectation. There is no full peace, and in that we want to encourage them towards hope in their daily lives. Christ's mission is deep faithfulness. Faith can strengthen hope. Faith can strengthen expectation, and the source of faith is Christ. That is our message as Christians. We accept Christ by living as Christians. We have to show Him in us," he added.

In concluding His address, van der Plas said he wants to tell the people in the Philippines and in other third world countries that they can face the future with caring help, a hopeful mind and a happy soul. "God is in our midst. Let us be heading for the promised land. Let the whole world know there is a promised land."

van der Plas says he is looking forward to returning to the Philippines. He said he loves to be in third world countries and hopes never to be retired from mission work.

Dirk also wants to be a missionary but will receive his bachelor's and possibly a master's degree before entering the mission field.

Mrs. van der Plas is looking forward to teaching music. She said her stay at Mount Olive College "has been a very busy time but a great renewing time for studying and meeting people."

Both Mr. and Mrs. van der Plas are anxious to see their children and grandchildren in Holland for two weeks before returning to the mission field.

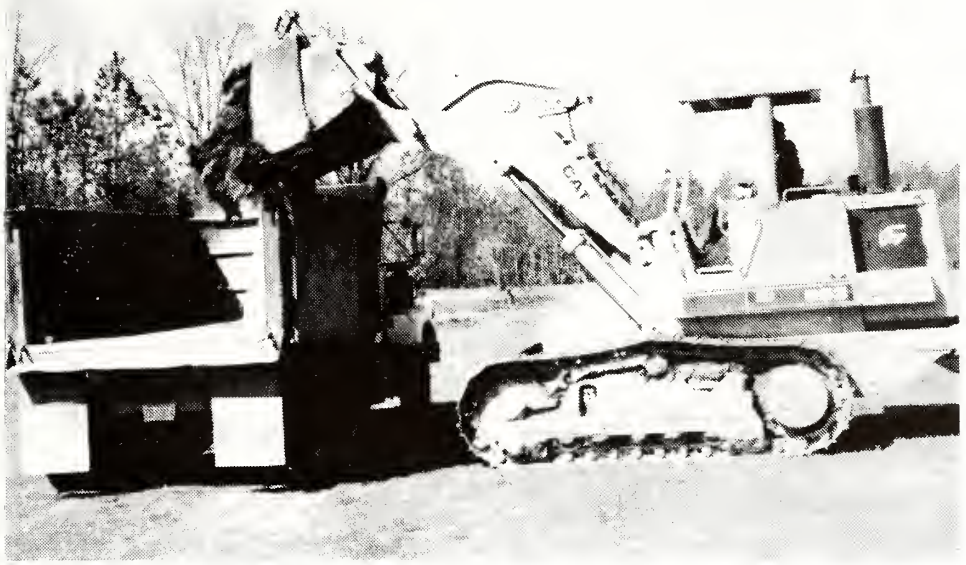
These two members of our Christian family at Mount Olive College will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and our prayers go with them as they continue their life of service to God through mission work.

### FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Last month we announced that a physical education building was to be constructed on our campus during 1988. This month we are pleased to announce work has begun to make this dream become a reality.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1988, many gathered where the gymnasium will be built for the ground breaking ceremony.

About 9 a.m., on Tuesday, March 29, 1988, trucks and







bulldozers from Coates Grading and Hauling arrived to begin preparing the ground. George E. Coates, owner, is a member of Saint Mary's Grove Church.

The foundation will be completed during the month of April and construction will begin the first week in May.

Whitley Center, named for the first children to enter our care in 1920, will become an important part in the lives of the youth we serve. May all Free Will Baptists join together in working for a strong and healthy future for our children.

As we were discussing the best possible way our churches could help make this dream come true, the free will offering was our choice. We would like to ask every Free Will Baptist Church to receive a special offering on May 15, 1988, which is Children's Home Day, for Whitley Center. Please let this offering be above and beyond your regular gifts to this ministry.

Those churches, Sunday School classes, Woman's Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, youth groups, and individuals who share a gift of $1000 or more will become Distinguished Pillar Members of Whitley Center. Your name will be engraved in a permanent plaque that will hang in Whitley Center. Your gift may be pledged over a two-year period, paid in the way that is most convenient for you.

You can share in the excitement of seeing young people grow into healthy adults. No matter what the size, your gift is necessary for your child care ministry to continue meeting the challenge of providing the quality care we are committed to.

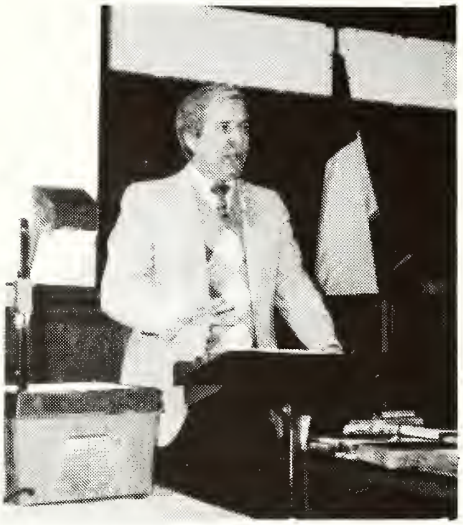
## THE 1988 WORLD MISSIONS CONFERENCE: A GREAT CONFERENCE

*by Harold Jones*

The Conference this year was held on February 26 on the campus of Mount Olive College. The Rev. Dick Eastman, with "Change the World Ministries," shared during the day on productive praying. Mr. Eastman taught some of the deepest teachings on prayer that I have ever heard. He had a wealth of material to enable the church to mobilize a prayer force. Everyone who attended was deeply enriched and I am sure better equipped for the ministry of prayer.

The Annual World Missions Conference is a ministry of the Board of Foreign Missions to our pastors and churches. There is no registration or fee of any kind for those who attend. The purpose of the Conference is to broaden the vision of our churches and to help equip everyone for a powerful prayer and outreach ministry. Each year we have invited an outstanding speaker who is well known throughout the world. The heartbreaking thing is that so few of you avail yourselves of this ministry. This year approximately 100 people attended out of 40,000 Free Will Baptists. It is my

(Turn the Page)



The Rev. Dick Eastman ("Change the World Ministries")



Tour group visiting Palawan Bible College.



Tour group traveling to Manalo. The view was splendid.

prayer that this will improve dramatically next year.

We have a complete set of prayer materials from Mr. Eastman's School of Prayer. Included in this material are some very good study courses on prayer. I would be more than happy to visit your church or auxiliary with this program. Just give me an invitation.

Prayer gives power to the individual, the church, and world missions. We must be effective in prayer if we are going to reach the world with the gospel.

*Free Will Baptists will have revival when we become serious about prayer.*

**TOUR TO THE PHILIPPINES 1988**

On February 29, the tour group to the Philippines departed from the Raleigh-Durham Airport for what turned out to be a rather long day of delays and airplane trouble. We were scheduled to arrive in Los Angeles, California, at 11:10 a.m., but instead arrived there at 5 p.m. The whole trip, however, was not like that first day. When we arrived in the Philippines, we were met by the Paul Grubbs family and Mrs. Lillian Grubbs, Paul's mother, who preceded the tour group by two weeks. The tour group this year was composed of the following people:

Delbert and Elizabeth Scott—Stoney Creek Church

Ed and Marjorie Wooten—Stoney Creek Church

Reginald and Lottie Caroon—Mt. Zion Church (Eastern)

Lillian Grubbs—Snow Hill Church

Guyla Evans—First Church, Tarboro

Leon Grubbs—Hull Road Church, pastor

Harold and Sandra Jones—Board of Foreign Missions

Our visit to Palawan was five exciting days of observing the work and sharing with our people there. This was a life-changing experience for everyone on the tour. Many made the statement that it was the greatest trip of their life. The work in the Philippines is bursting with growth. New churches are springing up. New workers are entering and graduating from Palawan Bible College each year. There is great excitement and anticipation of God's next move.

We also visited sights in Manila before we returned home on



Visiting at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Basingil at Manalo.

March 12. I hope some of you will be able to join us for a tour to the Philippines in a few years.

We encourage you to pray for the physical and spiritual growth of the work in the Philippines.

### MISSION CONFERENCE, A CELEBRATION

*by Willem van der Plas*

February 19-21 were three days of joyful sharing at Friendship Church, Farmville. The church is pastored by the Rev. Walter Reynolds. Participants in the program were Harold and Sandra Jones, Lydia, Dirk and Willem van der Plas, and unexpectedly the Rev. Dwight Hawley and his family.

Mrs. Sandra Jones emphasized the fact that missions starts in our homes and that it does not have limits or boundaries. The slide programs on Saturday and Sunday night showed how blessed we are in this country and they gave testimony of progress in our mission programs on the fields.

Lydia and Dirk sang various songs of praise and servanthood. My message on Friday night was inspired by Matthew 16:2-28, with the focus on verse 24, in particular on the words "Follow Me," do what I did. This theme was compared with Isaiah 6:8 and Luke 4:1-2.





On Sunday morning, we received a very special message from the Rev. Dwight Hawley, who gave testimony of his call and special task in Austria. He spoke about the faithfulness of the people he works with.

In Farmville we experienced the growth of heartwarming relationships and unity. It was a joy to be together with loving and genuine concern towards other people who need our faithful and caring support.

### NOTICE OF ARRIVAL

The Baker family will arrive at the Raleigh-Durham Airport on Saturday, May 14, at 9 a.m. via United Airlines. I am sure many of you will want to greet them as they return home for furlough.

### DEPARTURE DATE SET

Willem and Lydia van der Plas will depart for the Philippines from Raleigh-Durham Airport on May 24, via Pan Am Flight #588, at 2:25 p.m. If you wish to see them off, please be at the airport at least one hour before departure.

Thank you for your love and support for the van der Plases while on furlough.

## FREE WILL BAPTISTS VISIT CHILDREN'S HOME



Gethsemane Church Group



Sidney Church Group

Members of Sidney and Gethsemane Churches visited the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home Saturday, February 6, 1988. The groups enjoyed a tour of the grounds as well as Rodgers Cottage, Memorial Chapel, Administrative Offices, Heritage Hall, Recreation Center and Educational Center.

Everyone was especially interested in seeing the new furniture in Rodgers and State Cottages. They also were excited about seeing sketches and plans for Whitley Center, a physical education building to be constructed in 1988.

The temperature on the outside was very cold, but the warmth that was brought to our campus from Sidney and Gethsemane Churches will always be felt and remembered.

## 1988 MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE GRADUATION EXERCISES ARE SCHEDULED

Mount Olive College will award 150 academic degrees, the largest number in the history of the College, during 1988 graduation exercises. The exercise is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, at 10:30 a.m. in College Hall.

The graduation speaker will be North Carolina Treasurer Harlan E. Boyles of Raleigh.

Boyles was elected to his third term as state treasurer in 1984. A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he has been a Certified Public Accountant for 32 years.

The Lincoln County native is former chairman of the Tax Review Board and the State Banking Commission. He is a member of a number of professional organizations including the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers; the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of State Treasurers.

Special music will be provided and a picnic will be held on the campus lawn immediately following the exercise. All friends of the College are invited to attend.

## SUMMER SCHOOL TO BEGIN AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Now is the time to plan to attend Summer School at Mount Olive College.

Session A will be held May 16 through June 17, with the B session set for June 27 through July 29.

Registration will take place in Room 209 of the Henderson Building on the first day of class.

Classes will meet Monday through Friday for one and one-half hours, and students will have the opportunity to complete six semester hours per session.

Credits earned at Mount Olive's Summer School may be transferred to other institutions.

For further information, contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).

**LAYMAN'S LEAGUE SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT SET FOR JUNE 11**



The Rev. C. L. Patrick

The Revs. C. L. Patrick and Bill Futch will be the speakers at the annual Layman's League Spiritual Life Retreat to be held June 11 at Eagles' Nest.

Patrick is a retired Free Will Baptist minister who remains very active in the pulpit. Futch is pastor of Bethlehem Church, located at Chinquapin, North Carolina.

Sponsored jointly by the Free Will Baptist State Layman's League and Mount Olive College, the retreat is a time for Bible study, prayer and group discussion.

The theme of this year's retreat is "God's Fellow Workers," taken from 1 Corinthians 3:9.

The day's activities will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. At 9:30 a.m., Patrick will speak on "The Fellow Worker and the Development of the Spiritual Life." Futch will speak at 1 p.m. concerning "The Fellow Worker and the Work of the Local Church."

The cost of lunch is $5 and reservations should be made by May 30. Please bring your Bibles, and if planning to stay overnight at Eagles' Nest, remember to bring a sleeping bag and other necessities.

For additional information, contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, 28365 (telephone 658-2502 or 658-9363).

**ANNA GARRIS HILL (1899-1988)**

*by Gary F. Barefoot, Librarian*
Mount Olive College

Anna Garris Hill, widow of Edward L. Hill, died March 5, 1988. For the past several years Mrs. Hill had made her home with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hales, in Zebulon, but had lived the greater part of her life in Ayden, North Carolina. She was a member of the Ayden Church.

Mrs. Hill was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Asa Edward Garris and a granddaughter of W. F. Hart, a pioneer in early educational efforts of the Free Will Baptists. She graduated from Ayden Seminary in 1917, with a diploma in the regular course of study and had the distinction of receiving the first diploma awarded in the Music Department that same year. As long as her health permitted, she remained an active member of the Ayden Seminary/Eureka College Alumni Association, serving as Treasurer for many years.

She will be remembered as one who continued the family tradition as an educational advocate

(Turn the Page)

**WILSON FIRST CHURCH DONATES BUS**




Shown is the Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor of First Church, Wilson, presenting the title of their church bus to the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Also shown is Earl Wilson, a member of the church, who accompanied his pastor to the Children's Home.

Our children send a special, "Thank you!" to all the members of the church for the gift of their bus. It will be much easier for us to travel as a group.



Anna Garris Hill

for the denomination. Early in the history of Mount Olive College, she was instrumental in the establishment and promotion of the Hart Endowment to provide funds for the general support of the College. In recognition of the support and pioneer effort of the Hart family on behalf of Christian education, a dormitory on the campus bears the Hart name.

She also helped establish at Mount Olive College the Free Will Baptist Heritage Foundation in 1958 to memorialize the original founders and trustees of the Ayden Seminary. Few persons have been more loyal supporters and advocates of the Moye Library and especially the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at the College than Mrs. Hill and her family. Librarian Gary Barefoot remembers her fondly as one "who never came empty-handed on her many visits to the campus," always bringing monetary gifts and/or historical documents for the library.

Many things could be said of Mrs. Anna Hill, but two *must* be said: She was proud of her ancestral heritage and proud to be an Original Free Will Baptist. In both cases, she knew why because she knew her roots.

**YOU ARE INVITED!**
**Coming Events at Mount Olive College**

*Graduation, 10:30 a.m., College Hall* — *Saturday, May 7*
The speaker will be North Carolina Treasurer Harlan E. Boyles of Raleigh. The largest number of graduates in the history of the College is expected.

*State Youth Convention* — *Friday-Sunday, May 13-15*
Sponsored by Youth Committee of State Woman's Auxiliary Convention. For information, contact either Mrs. Suzanne Coates, Box 450, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568 (phone: 919/934-2727); or Mrs. Joan Little, Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, North Carolina 27828 (phone: 919/753-3217).

*Gospel Music Festival* — *Saturday, May 21*
Begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day at Eagles Nest. Sponsored by State Layman's League Convention.

*Spiritual Life Retreat* — *Saturday, June 11*
Begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day at Eagles Nest. Sponsored by State Layman's League Convention. All ministers and laypersons are cordially invited.

*Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni Meeting* — *Wednesday, June 22*
Begins at 10 a.m. at Ayden Church Fellowship Hall and ends at noon with lunch. The Rev. James A. Evans will be the program speaker. All ministers and laypersons are invited.

*Ministers' Institute* — *Monday-Tuesday, August 8-9*
Begins Monday morning at 9 in the Henderson Building. This Institute is offered as a service to ministers by Mount Olive College. The program is sponsored jointly by the College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

**For More Information on These Events**
Contact Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss or Frank R. Harrison, Henderson Building, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephone (919) 658-2502.

**NOTICE**

The Church Finance Association is in need of funds. If your church or church organization has funds that could be deposited with our Association, it would greatly benefit our churches and institutions. We are receiving more requests for loans than we have funds to supply. The interest paid on deposits is some less than you would receive from commercial institutions. However, the eternal returns are beyond measure. For more information, please contact us at the Headquarters Building in Ayden: phone, 746-4963; Box 39, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

**ADDRESS CHANGE**

As of May 1, 1988, the Rev. Fred Baker can be contacted by writing to him at Box 786, Clayton, NC 27520.



The Sword Drill winners for the 1988 State League Convention, held at Christian Chapel Church, are as follows: Junior division—Brian Weathersby, from Winterville Church, Central Conference (Brian won an all-expense paid trip to Cragmont); Intermediate division—First place, Stacey Brugess, Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie, Albemarle Conference (Stacey won an all-expense paid trip to Cragmont) and second place, Robin Weathersby, Winterville Church, Central Conference (Robin won one-half of her expense to Cragmont).

The State League Convention will be held next year at Mount Olive College on March 11, 1989. Hope to see you there!

Our youth are our greatest natural resource. What are we feeding them? Do our youth know how to use God's Word?

Margaret Ard,
State Bible Sword Drill Leader
Route 1, Pink Hill, NC 28572
568-4685

## STUDY GUIDE FOR 1989
## JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE SWORD DRILLS
### North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues
#### FEATURING A STUDY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I. Scripture Searching
1. Genesis 6:3
2. 1 Thessalonians 2:19
3. Ezekiel 36:27
4. 1 Corinthians 2:13
5. Mark 3:29
6. 1 Samuel 10:10
7. 2 Corinthians 3:6
8. Psalm 51:11
9. Ephesians 2:18
10. 1 Peter 1:22
11. Acts 21:11
12. Psalm 104:30
13. Zechariah 4:6
14. John 14:17
15. Joel 2:28
16. Romans 8:9
17. Numbers 11:25
18. Matthew 5:11
19. Judges 6:34
20. Acts 8:17
21. Nehemiah 9:20
22. 1 John 3:24
23. Isaiah 63:10
24. Ephesians 4:30

II. Unfinished Quotations
1. "And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan . . ." (Luke 4:1).
2. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost . . ." (Acts 2:4).
3. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God . . ." (1 Corinthians 3:16).
4. "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess . . ." (Ephesians 5:18).
5. "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you . . ." (Acts 1:8).
6. "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost . . ." (1 Thessalonians 1:5).
7. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear . . ." (2 Timothy 1:7).
8. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit . . ." (Romans 8:16).
9. "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men . . ." (Matthew 12:31).
10. "The Spirit of the LORD God is upon me: because the Lord hath anointed me to . . ." (Isaiah 61:1).
11. "It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing . . ." (John 6:63).
12. "Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the son of God . . ." (Hebrews 10:29).

III. Character Drill
1. Barnabas (Acts 13:2)
2. Mary (Matthew 1:18)
3. Son of God (Luke 1:35)
4. Heavenly Father (Luke 11:13)
5. Devils (Matthew 12:28)
6. Elisabeth (Luke 1:41)
7. Zacharias (Luke 1:67)
8. Philip (Acts 8:29)
9. Disciples (Acts 13:52)
10. Saul (1 Samuel 16:14)
11. Spirit (Romans 8:16)
12. Nicodemus (John 3:1)
13. Balaam (Numbers 24:2)
14. Ananias (Acts 5:3)
15. Lord (Isaiah 11:2)
16. Gideon (Judges 6:34)
17. Company of Prophets (1 Samuel 10:10)
18. David (1 Samuel 16:13)
19. Simeon (Luke 2:25)
20. Peter (Acts 10:44)
21. Paul (Acts 19:6)
22. Jesus (Matthew 3:16)
23. Satan (Acts 5:3)
24. Esaias (Isaiah) (Acts 28:25)

IV. Book Drill
1. Jude
2. Exodus
3. Malachi
4. Acts
5. Ruth

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6. Jonah
7. 1 Chronicles
8. Galatians
9. Amos
10. Philemon
11. Ezekiel
12. Colossians
13. Esther
14. 2 Timothy
15. Isaiah
16. Psalms
17. Hebrews
18. Ecclesiastes
19. 2 Peter
20. Zephaniah
21. Song of Solomon
22. Mark
23. Nahum
24. Ruth

V. Topical Drill
1. Witness (Romans 8:16)
2. God (1 Corinthians 2:10)
3. Ministers (2 Corinthians 3:6)
4. Son (Galatians 4:6)
5. Soweth (Galatians 6:8)
6. Body (Ephesians 4:4)
7. Times (1 Timothy 4:1)
8. Commandments (1 John 3:24)
9. Dwell (1 John 4:13)
10. Day (Revelation 1:10)
11. Churches (Revelation 2:7)
12. Bride (Revelation 22:17)
13. Man (Numbers 27:18)
14. Portion (2 Kings 2:9)
15. Cloud (Numbers 11:25)
16. Soul (Isaiah 26:9)
17. Glory (Ezekiel 3:12)
18. Dove (Mark 1:10)
19. Bone (Luke 24:39)
20. Worship (John 4:24)
21. Words (John 6:63)
22. World (John 14:17)
23. Things (Romans 8:5)
24. Flesh (Romans 8:9)

VI. Doctrinal Drill

The Scriptures ascribe (assign, give credit) to the Holy spirit the acts and attributes of an intelligent being.

1. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit guides (John 16:13).
2. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit knows (1 Corinthians 2:11).
3. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit moves (Acts 8:39).
4. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit gives information (Acts 10:19).
5. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit commands (Acts 13:2).
6. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit forbids (Acts 16:6).
7. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit sends forth (Acts 13:4).
8. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit reproves (corrects, warns) (John 16:8).
9. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit can be sinned against (Mark 3:29).

   The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit.
10. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit creates (Job 33:4).
11. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit inspires (moves) (2 Peter 1:21).
12. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit gives life (Romans 8:11).

The *Character Drill* and *Topical Drill* are acceptable if found in other Scriptures; however, I hope you will use the ones selected. They tie in with the theme of the Holy Spirit.

Bibles will be provided (King James Version, American Bible Society No. 00312). May God help us as we study His Word together.

## RULES
## SWORD DRILL

METHOD OF DRILL—CALLS

1. *Mass.* At this command, all rise and stand by groups, Bible in left hand.
2. *Attention.* Heels together, shoulders up, hands at side, face the leader.
3. *Salute.* Regular military salute in two counts. (1) Right hand brought quickly to forehead over right eye. (2) Hand brought quickly to side.
4. *DRAW SWORDS.* Bring Bibles to waistline immediately in front of the body with thumbs along the back edge. This manner of holding the Bible prevents the tendency to slip the thumb into the pages prior to the charge. It does not matter which hand is on top.
5. *Assignment.* The leader announces the Scripture passage or other drill item. The assignment is given twice slowly and distinctly.
6. *Charge.* At this command, every member of the group begins to search for the Scripture.
7. *Time.* The leader allows 15 seconds before calling time. This is the signal for all to stop searching and the score is taken. The leader then selects one contestant to give the correct answer.

TYPES OF DRILLS

1. *Scripture Searching.*
2. *Unfinished Quotation Drill.* The leader quotes the first part of a verse of Scripture. The contestants must know its location and turn to it in the Bible.
3. *Character Drill.* The name of a Bible character is given. The contestants must find the name of the character in the body of the Bible verse and not at the heading of a chapter. This drill may be varied by telling facts about the character without calling his name.
4. *Book Drill.* In this drill the name of a book in the Bible is given. Contestants must find the book and be ready to tell which book comes before and which follows it before stepping forward.
5. *Topical Drill.* The leader gives a word or phrase and the contestants must find this contained in a verse of Scripture. Each may have a different passage.
6. *Doctrinal Drill.* The leader asks the group to find a verse in the Bible setting forth some great Bible doctrine. For example, "Find a verse which proves that faith in Christ saves"; or, "Find a verse proving that all have sinned." The plan of salvation may be worked into this drill.

SCORING

1. *Ten points* shall be awarded to the first contestant to step forward; *five points* to the second; and *one point* to each of the others who step forward before time is called.
2. The contestant must have his finger on the correct passage before stepping forward. An infraction of this rule draws a *ten-point penalty* and no points will be given for the item in question to the contestant in error. Adjustment of points will be made in order to give the correct amount to the contestants who are accurate in finding the passage.
3. The Bible must be held as described in item four under "Method of Drill" above. An infraction of this rule carries with it a penalty of ten points.
4. A continuous infraction of the rules or unbecoming conduct shall disqualify a contestant from further participation. The decision rests with the judges.
5. The Sword Drill is properly judged with *three judges* seated in different areas of the room.
6. The timekeeper should use a regulation stopwatch if available. A timepiece with a large second hand may be substituted when necessary.
7. The contestant with the highest number of points shall be declared the winner. The contestant with the second highest number of points shall be declared runner-up. In event of a tie, two additional items shall be used in a tie-breaking drill. All rules apply as in the original drill.

Mrs. Margaret Ard
Route 1, Box 155
Pink Hill, NC 28572
Phone 568-4685

## THE SPIRIT OF HOLLY SPRINGS

*by Janie Fitzgerald Garner*

I stand proudly at the end of a side road on the Nine Mile Road, one and three quarters of a mile west of Newport. How handsomely I have grown due to the love and devotion bestowed on me during my one hundred years!

My humble beginning was when my community saw the need of a school for their children. Jonathan Stanley Garner, a civic-minded man, donated land and the community donated time and effort towards the building of my original structure. A Ladies Working Society was organized and collected subscriptions to pay for needed materials. Donations are recorded from as far away as New Bern, when travel was by horse-drawn wagons and buggy. The one thought that permeated their work was that this was to be their school, Sunday School, and eventually their church. They were obsessed with this thought.

Then came the date January seventh, eighteen eighty-seven, when it was recorded that D. L. Mann was paid seven dollars and fifty cents ($7.50) for my shingles. Eleven windows were purchased for nine dollars and thirty-five cents ($9.35), with freight costing forty cents ($.40). A stove was purchased for me for seven dollars and forty cents ($7.40), with freight twenty-five cents ($.25). Work was nearing completion on me when finally it was recorded that one dozen primers were ordered at six cents ($.06) each.

Finally a name had to be chosen for me. I was located between two canals, Big Ramshorn and Little Ramshorn, but my community did not approve of those names. Located behind me, surrounded by holly trees, was a spring which would supply the children with cool, clear water fetched each morning in a bucket. They named me Holly Springs.

Soon I was ready for all of the beautiful and much loved children who were ready to enter my doors. A teacher was soon at my door, ringing a bell, welcoming the children.

There was good rapport between students and teacher, as books were opened and eager students absorbed the knowledge to which they were exposed. Spelling bees, ciphering contests, essay and speaking contests were held. I recall with pride the many incidents of children excelling. Champion spellers, mathematicians, and speakers beamed with pride at their triumphs. I remember the embarrassment when a child was not able to perform when called upon. We had our share of joy and sadness. All was not work, for there were games and play at recess. The smaller children were playing tag, drop-the-handkerchief, ante-over, ring-around-the-rosy, and jump rope; while the older girls and boys played baseball. At night, there were basket suppers and pie suppers for the young folks of the community. Many love affairs, which began at these parties, culminated in marriage. The parties were always well chaperoned because the teacher and parents were always on duty there.

Oh, happy day! Something new is about to happen. On July first, eighteen hundred eighty-eight, the people of Holly Springs community held a meeting and resolved to organize a Sunday School. There was much joy as they held an election. The following were elected: R. C. Garner, superintendent; J. A. Mann, secretary; Miss Bettie Garner, treasurer; and D. S. Quinn, librarian. They organized four men and three women's classes. A dozen gospel hymnals were ordered totaling one dollar sixty cents ($1.60), for which one dollar fifty-three ($1.53) was collected.

I was a really busy place now for I happily protected and cared for children during the week. On Saturday mornings a committee of women busily scrubbed and polished me for use on Sunday morning. It was a busy, happy time in my life.

After the Sunday School had been organized a while, a basket supper was held. The superintendent (who later was to become the first man licensed by Holly Springs Church) made a speech which was recorded as follows:

LECTURE ON EDUCATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

"In Genesis we read that God created the heavens and the earth. In those times history was merely verbal; handed down from father to son, etc. Later on the patriarchs engraved historical facts on stone, and still later they wrote on parchment manuscript history. For thousands of years after the creation of the world there was no printing of books as now, then printing was invented. Since that time there have been thousands of books printed in every language of the enlightened nations.

"Education teaches people to know their origin: to know that there is a God, the author of our existence, and that we should worship Him. Education teaches people the benefit of government and how to make good laws. Education teaches us to love those whom we never saw. It teaches us that there is a blessed Saviour, The Son of the True and Living God, a Saviour who lived in this world a natural man, but without sin: a Saviour who taught by precept and example the way we should

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live and act in this life—a Saviour that atoned for Adam's sin; a Saviour through the merits of whom and by the mercies of God we may inherit eternal life. And it's that Saviour that I and the other teachers of this Sunday School have been for nearly six months trying to acquaint you with by the reading of the Testament, which means *will of Christ* who is the testator or author of that Will."

Great days are in store for me soon, because I am to be part of a church, also.

The Free Will Baptist Church at Holly Springs, Carteret County, was organized Saturday before the first Sunday on April A.D. eighteen hundred eighty-nine. There were seventeen (17) members, with Elder W. W. Lewis as pastor. My days were filled with love and joy as I was involved in all the activities of day school, Sunday School, church and community gatherings. After thirty-five years of loving and protecting my children, in nineteen hundred twenty-three the county resolved that the pupils of Holly Springs School were to be bused to the new Newport School. It was a sad day for many, because the community was losing something precious, a part of their lives. Mothers who had made paths across fields on their daily visits to the school would not be going to Newport to visit. They would miss being involved as they were at Holly Springs. The daily trooping of children through my door would stop. I would miss the children bringing the bucket of cool water from the spring and the dipper they used to drink from; the pot-bellied stove would only be fired on the weekend. The morning devotions, songs and pledge to the United States flag would not be given each morning. I would be lonely for their excited, happy voices. Except for community meetings, parties, Sunday School and church services, all would be quiet.

One day a new pastor came to Holly Springs Church, the Rev. Bill Everette of Morehead City. He inspired the members who made up the church to build a new building. I watched as the community that erected me built another building beside me. Then something wonderful happened! When it was finished, they moved me, the Sunday School and church, into their new building, my new home. Many building programs were promoted by many future pastors, and with the love and devotion of the church I have progressed to what I am today.

I am still the center of activity in my community, sharing their joys and sorrows: a project that is a century old and very proud of it! My name is Holly Springs Church!

(The material for the above article was discovered when R. S. Garner Sr., of Newport, began tearing down a barn and chicken house on his property where he lived as a child, and where his father, the Rev. L. C. Garner, and his grandfather, R. C. Garner, lived. The material was recorded in two old receipts books found in a metal storage box. Other information was gleaned from stories handed down through the last one hundred years by former students and church members.)

## AIDS SUFFERERS TO GET SPIRITUAL HELP THROUGH ABS SCRIPTURE

If current trends continue, there will soon come a time when almost every family in our nation will be affected in some way by acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

In light of this chilling prediction, the American Bible Society is to publish a Scripture booklet during the summer designed to offer spiritual comfort and hope not only to sufferers from AIDS, but their families, loved-ones, friends and co-workers too.

"Nothing Can Separate Us From the Love of God" is both its title and theme.

Running through the booklet is a strong sense of reassurance that even when life seems to betray us, when others turn away and we feel totally alone, there is a loving God who is standing by.

The booklet incorporates 22 passages from both the Old and New Testaments in the clear, straightforward words of the Good News Bible, grouped into sections which are linked by brief words of explanation. The Bible passages include Christ's reason, set forth in Matthew 9, for eating with the outcasts, Jonah's prayer for deliverance and Psalm 103.

Chaplains and others who work with AIDS patients have reviewed the manuscript of "Nothing Can Separate Us From the Love of God" and have expressed approval of the passages selected.

Dr. J. Harold Ellens, executive director of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and editor in chief of the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity,* writes that the selection of Scriptures is "compassionate," and that the central message of the gospel's good news about God's perpetual affirmation of us in Christ "comes through clearly and forcefully on every page. Since God is for us who can be against us?"

"Nothing Can Separate Us From the Love of God" will be available to hospitals, hospices, church groups and individuals who minister to people with AIDS in July.

# MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist
Layman's League Convention
Cordially Invites You to Attend
a
**FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC**
Saturday, May 21, 1988
Eagles Nest Conference Center
Beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro
($4 per plate)

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

*THE MONARCHS
Wilson, NC

*THE VALLEYAIRES
Fremont, NC

*FREDDIE PIERCE
Ventriloquist
Richard J. Waldorf
Pikeville, NC

*OAK GROVE BOYS
Elm City, NC

*THE CANAANLAND SINGERS
Princeton, NC

*THE NEW LIFE SINGERS
Wilson, NC

*DIXIE MELODY BOYS
Kinston, NC

**RAIN SITE: COLLEGE HALL
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE**

## FREE ADMISSION

## 1988 CRAGMONT SCHEDULE

Please take note of some important changes in the 1988 summer schedule. Due to the late ending school year, the Ministers' Conference will be June 13-16, allowing General Youth Conference I to be held July 18-23. This could be confusing as General Youth Conference I will be following General Youth Conference II. Campers who want to return to the same camp week as last year need to be very careful to take note of this change. Below is a list of Cragmont conferences and the person to contact to register.

JUNE 13-16
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
Lyn Renfrow, Registrar
Route 1, Box 251-C
Kenly, NC 27542

JUNE 20-25
CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Gary Bailey, Director/Registrar
Route 2, Box 489
Goldsboro, NC 27530

JUNE 27—JULY 2
YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA)
Scott and Janie Sowers
Directors/Registrars
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

JULY 4-9
YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC)
Doug Skinner, Director/Registrar
Box 117, Arapahoe, NC 28510
(After May 30) 804 Cooper Street
Winterville, NC 28590

JULY 11-16
GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE II
Chris Singleton, Registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

JULY 18-23
GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE I
Rick Watson, Registrar
Route 3, Box 142-AA
Kenly, NC 27542

Youth leaders encourage your youth to come to a conference.

JULY 25-30
YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE
James Gurganus,
Director/Registrar
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST 1-6
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE I
Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

AUGUST 8-13
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE II
Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580



**1988 IS OFF TO A GREAT START**

January 1-3, 1988, were the dates of our first Young Adult Retreat. For some time we have wanted to offer a retreat to those who feel too old to attend a summer youth conference. Our attempt to do this was very successful with 30 young adults attending. While most of them were college students, it is not a requirement to be attending college. We want to provide an opportunity to be a "Cragmonter" to this age group that has been left out of our program in the past.

The subject of our retreat this year was "Worship: Why We Worship, What Worship Is, and What It Is Not." On Friday and Saturday nights, we discussed these points and planned our Sunday morning worship service.

On Saturday, those who were interested left early for a day of skiing. While the slopes were somewhat crowded and the weather conditions were a bit warm for the best skiing, we had a great time.

We plan to make this an annual retreat. The date for the next retreat will be December 30, 1988-January 2, 1989. We hope to plan another ski outing as well as some activity for those not interested in skiing. Please put this on your calendar now.

## SUMMER'S END CRAGMONT REUNION

A reunion is being planned for all our 1988 summer campers as well as anyone else who has ever attended a Cragmont conference and wants to participate. The reunion will be held on Saturday, September 17, 1988, at Mount Olive College. A picnic supper is planned for 6 p.m., with a program of skits, singing, or some contribution from each week to follow. This will be discussed further this summer during each week of camp. More information about the reunion and registration will be printed later.

## THE MINISTER'S SALARY

*by Don Fader*

During this time of year, many churches set aside time to review their pastor's wage and perhaps consider increases for the coming year. Does your pastor deserve more? Is he worth more? These are questions that only a congregation can answer. The Ministers' Program would not dare enter into an issue like this, as it is best left to the pastor and congregation. However, in the next few paragraphs we would like to point out some facts and figures that may make your task easier when this question comes up.

The first question is, "How much does your pastor receive now?" Let's say, for example, that your pastor has been with you for the last ten years. His starting salary was 15,000 dollars a year in 1978 and today he earns 20,000. That averages out to 3% a year increase, or does it? Over the last 10 years, the inflation rate according to the Department of Labor has totaled over 64%. Those figures are:

| | |
|---|---|
| '78 | 9.0% |
| '79 | 13.3 |
| '80 | 12.4 |
| '81 | 8.9 |
| '82 | 3.9 |
| '83 | 3.8 |
| '84 | 4.0 |
| '85 | 3.8 |
| '86 | 1.8 |
| '87 | 3.8 |
| Total | 64.70% |

So if we consider the 20,000 earnings, it actually means that the minister is now earning 13,660 less than what he started at in 1978. And more than likely, out of this income he has to pay his own retirement, insurance, travel and conference expenses. For a raise to be a raise it must be over and above the annual cost-of-living increases.

It seems that the minister who suffers the most is the minister that stays in one church over a long period of time. Rather than being rewarded for longevity and experience, he is being penalized for staying too long. As your church reviews its pastor's salary requirements, we would like for you to consider several questions that will help you as a finance committee member, deacon, or church member to do what is right in helping compensate your pastor.

1) Does your church have a committee assigned the responsibility to review (at least annually) the salaries of its paid staff?
2) Does this committee function?
3) Has your church at least kept up with the cost-of-living?
4) Would the salaries paid to your staff be enough to provide for replacement?
5) Does your church have a written plan for salary and benefit administration?
6) Does this plan include merit increases above the annual cost-of-living increases?
7) Do you provide your minister with enough salary support so that financial problems do not interfere with his best work?
8) Does your church committee do an annual survey to determine the salaries of professionals in your area?
9) Is your pastor's salary at least equal to the median salary range of the church family?
10) Does your church pay housing allowance adequate enough to permit investment in home ownership?
11) Does your church provide an adequate car allowance?
12) Does your church provide for health and life insurance plans?
13) Do you participate in your minister's retirement plan?

If you can answer, "yes" to all these questions your church is doing an excellent job in providing for your minister. If you cannot, then there is room for review. Don't wait till next year or expect someone else to do it. **It is up to you** to make a difference!

## MINISTERS' WIDOW'S FUND

Following is a list of ministers who participate in the Ministers' Widow's Fund. Each participant contributes $10 whenever a fellow participating minister dies. The existing fund is contributed to the deceased minister's wife at a time when money can be a real need.

Norman Ard
Ralph Aycock
R. W. Allman
Owen Arthur
Henry Armstrong
Larry Barbour
Franklin Brinson
N. B. Barrow
A. B. Bryan
Stanley Buck
J. W. Byrd
Edgar Benton
Fred Baker
Gary Bailey
Dewey Boling
Jimmie Barfield
Eldon Brock
Gene Britt
Luther Bissett
Walter Bass
McDonal Bennett
W. L. Brickhouse
Charles Crisp
M. E. Cox
D. T. Cleve
Roy Clifton
C. M. Coates
J. B. Caton
Clyde Cox
Roland Cherry
Floyd Cherry

(Turn the Page)

David DeHart
Lester Duncan
Jeff Daughtry
Elbert Edwards
Melvin Everington
De Wayne Eakes
O. B. Everett Sr.
Eddie Edwards
Bill Futch
Kenneth Forehand
Foy Futrelle
Frank Flowers
Donald Fader
Joe Griffith
Paul Grubbs
Felton Godwin
Claude Garrett
Francis Garner
Jackie Godwin
David C. Hansley
Wilbert Hodge
Steve Hargrove
Calvin Heath
Raymond Hardison
Bobby Harrell
Carol Hansley
Ray Harrison
Bob Harber
R. P. Harris
Ronnie Hobgood
Lloyd Hargis
James Hardee
David Hill
David W. Hansley
Joe Ingram
Dan Jordan
Joe Johnson
Douglas Johnson
Rod Jones
James Joyner
O. B. Jones
Emmitt Jones
Fred Johnson
Harry Jones
Harold Jones
Dean Kennedy
Wayne King
James Lupton
Graham Lane
John Lee
Alan Lamm
William Littleton
Joseph Lehmann
Lonnie Mann
W. R. Martin
Ed Miles
W. A. Martin
Tom Miller
Charles Morgan
Robert May
J. B. Narron
W. C. Overton
C. H. Overman
John Owens
James Owens
Charles Parrish
Jack Phillips
Michael Pelt
Ronnie Parker
Walton Parrish
Cedric Pierce
Arnold Price
Walter Pollard
C. L. Patrick
Donald Ribeiro
Dan Rivers
Robert Rollins
Clifton Rice
Royce Reynolds
Walter Reynolds
Joe Ratcliff
Fred Rivenbark
Charles Renfrow
Mike Scott
Preston Smith
Dennis Sherrod
Ralph Sumner
Boyd Shook
Scott Sowers
Elijah F. Smith
Luther Swinson
Jeff Scarborough
John Sexton
Raymond Sasser
Doug Skinner
O. B. Taylor
Ed Taylor
Grady Tucker
W. J. Tyner
Don Venable
David Vesper
Sexton Vann
Ray Williamson
Timothy Webber
Wayne Watson
Willis Wilson
L. B. Woodall
Frank Williams
W. H. Willis
John Williams
Marvin Waters

## NEW BOOK FOR CLERGY AVAILABLE

A new text is now available that will assist clergy in becoming more effective in the care of the bereaved. *Death and Grief: A Guide for Clergy* is authored by Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt, director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Wolfelt stated, "This book has been written to assist in filling a need for a compact yet comprehensive text for clergy who wish to enhance their ability to assist people during times of death and grief."

The book is a "state-of-the-art" reference and training guide that will be helpful to anyone involved in care of the bereaved. Among topics included are: "Understanding Complicated Grief," "The Funeral Ritual and Grief," and "Caring for the Caregiver."

In addition to his work at the Center for Loss and Life Transition, Dr. Wolfelt is on the faculty at the University of Colorado Medical School in the Department of Family Medicine. He lectures and presents workshops throughout the country in the area of thanatology. The author of numerous articles in the areas of loss and life transition, Wolfelt serves as the editor of the "children and grief" department of *Bereavement Magazine.* Also among his publications are the books *Helping Children Cope With Grief* (1983) and *Human Relations Training: A Manual for Funeral Home Staffs* (1987). He has been interviewed by such magazines as *Newsweek, Vogue,* and *Ladies Home Journal.*

To receive a brochure describing this new book, write: Center for Loss and Life Transition, 3735 Broken Bow Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526; or phone 303-484-1313. Bulk rate discounts are available to those funeral homes who wish to make this book available to the clergy in their community.

## OFFICE ESTABLISHED IN HEADQUARTERS

Bass Mitchell, field secretary of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention, now has an office in the Headquarters at Ayden. His hours are from 9-5 on Mondays. Contact him there by calling 746-4963 (extension 38); or writing him at Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.



**RECEIVES LAYMAN'S AWARD . . .** Pictured is Paul Beaman being presented a plaque by Gerald Heath for his outstanding work in the Layman's League. According to Heath, Beaman was cited for his dedication and leadership in the church. (photo by *Peggy Greene*).

PAUL BEAMAN, a member of Free Union Church, since 1951, was honored recently with the first award ever presented by the Layman's League of the church. He was presented a plaque by Gerald Heath, president of the League and a donation was made by the group in his name to the North Carolina State Layman's League Endowment Fund at Mount Olive College.

According to Gerald Heath, who made the presentation, the award was presented to Beaman for his outstanding service and dedicated leadership to the Layman's League. Heath went on to say that Beaman was a people's leader and that he stood out in all church activities.

Beaman has served as president of the local church League; president, vice president, secretary-treasurer of the Central Conference League, was elected president of the North Carolina State Layman's League when it was organized in May, 1982. He helped plan the Endowment Scholarship at Mount Olive College; the gospel music festival; spiritual life retreat, conference sings, and other projects.

He has served as Sunday School superintendent and Sunday School teacher. He now serves as a deacon, budget committee member, scout coordinator, member of the Male Chorus, and on the state board.

A native of Greene county, he is the son of the late Paul and Mattie Beaman. Paul graduated from Maury School and served 2 years in the United States Army.

He is married to the former Shirley Ham of Greene County. They have two children: Randy, who is a supervisor with a construction company; and Paula, who attends East Carolina University.

"I was really surprised and feel honored by this award. I love working with the laymen, and doing anything I can to help in the church," Beaman said.

THE SIXTY-FIRST NORTH CAROLINA STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will convene with Winterville Church on Thursday, May 12. Psalm 86:1, "Teach me Thy way, O, LORD," is the theme Scripture. Following is the Convention schedule:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Theme Song, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus"
—Devotions, Joan Hooks
—Welcome, Sandra Jones
—Response, Jane Tripp
10:30—Greetings, Sara Willoughby, State President
—Denominational Reports
—Business Session
11:10—Hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow"
—Offering
—Special Music, Lorraine Garner
11:30—Message, Kathy Pittman Hayes
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "More Like the Master"
—Life Membership Award
—Special Music
—Memorial Service, Eunice Boykin
1:30—Hymn, "Make Me a Blessing"
—Miscellaneous Business
—Committee Reports
—Installation of Officers for 1988-90, Becky Sumner
—Adjournment

Pianist, Debby Gray
Organist, Linda Weathersby
Music Director, Leah McGlohon
Ushers, Francis Phillips and Dorothy Pait

THE CAPE FEAR UNION MEETING will convene with Daly's Chapel Church on Saturday, May 21, 1988. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotions, The Rev. Clifford Ball
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, Peyton Lee
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union Meeting
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises

(Turn the Page)

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Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music, Host Church
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, The Rev. W. A. Martin
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Hubert Stanley
Secretary, Martha L. Parsons

THE FIRST UNION CHURCH OF THE WESTERN CONFERENCE will meet with Marsh Swamp Church, located near Sims, on Saturday, May 28, at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Jimmie Barfield will speak, with the Rev. Lyn Renfrow serving as his alternate. The Rev. Keith Cobb is moderator; the Rev. James Joyner serves as clerk.

All member churches are urged to attend with full delegation and fee.

**(Please note: The meeting date was changed back to the Saturday before fifth Sunday.)**



THE MEMBERS OF THE HAYMOUNT CHURCH LADIES AUXILIARY honored their youth with a Valentine Banquet February 14. Each youth was encouraged to collect funds for a king and queen. Proceeds would go to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The total amount raised was $363.23. The following were elected Cherubs—Erica Parsons, Brian Kuhn; AFC—Janice Hayes, Chris Dwiggins; YFA—Christy Godby, Charles Hayes.

The youth were entertained with balloons and candy from a clown who visited them after their meal. Everyone had a great time.

THE YOUTH OF MARLBORO CHURCH, Farmville, will present the musical "Heart to Change the World" Sunday, May 22, at 7 p.m. Information about the group's summer workcamp trip will be shared during that time.

The Rev. Wm. Scott Sowers, pastor and congregation cordially invite everyone to join them for this service.

### GRIFFIN BROTHERHOOD TO MEET

All ministers, laypersons and their spouses are invited to attend the next meeting of the Griffin Brotherhood to be held Friday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m., at White Oak Grove Church, located near La Grange.

A program of entertainment will be provided by "The Fabulous Four" under the direction of Carolyn M. Knox, professor of music at Mount Olive College.

A meal will be provided at a cost of $4 per person.

The Griffin Brotherhood receives its name from the Rev. J. C. Griffin who was an outstanding pastor and leader in the Free Will Baptist Church until his death in 1967.

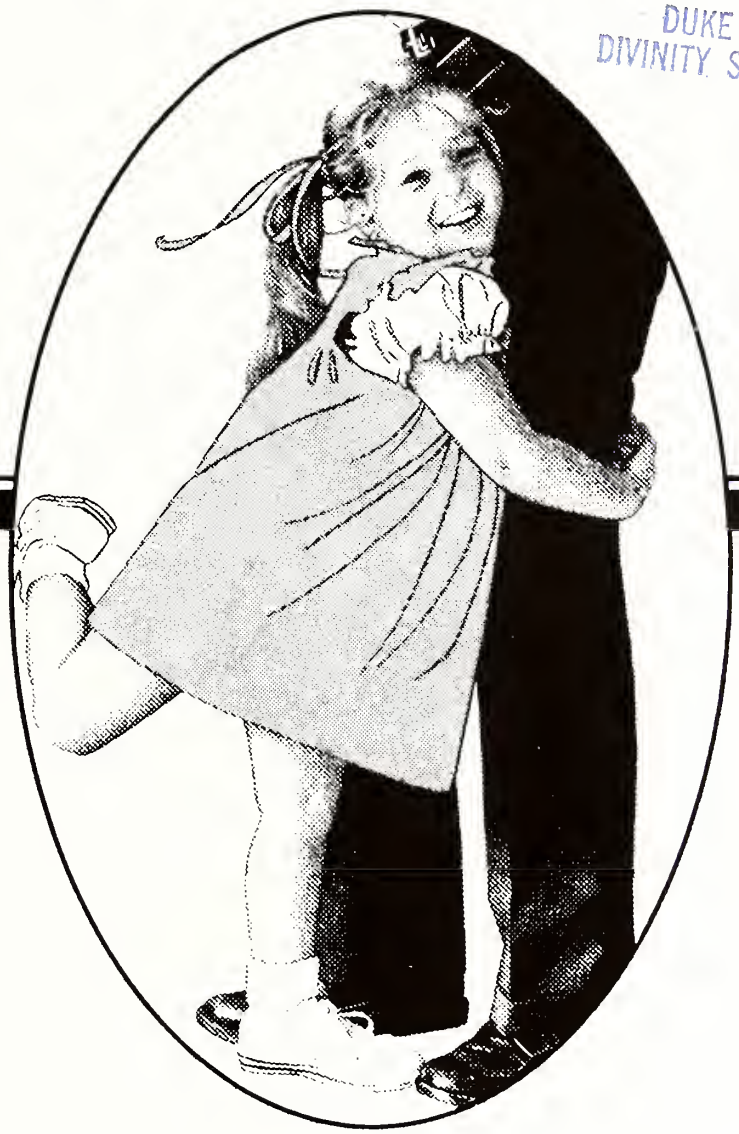
### CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Victory Church, Hope Mills, is in need of a pastor. Interested individuals should contact Charles Reep, 867-4650; or Betty Ellis, 424-2838.

Spring Hope Church, New Bern, is looking for a full-time minister. Interested individuals should contact Troy Jones, chairman of the Deacon Board, by phoning (919) 637-9674.

Div/Sch.

# FATHER'S DAY



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**JUNE, 1988**

# The Free Will Baptist

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

June, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 6

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Editorial Comment |
| 5 | Letter to Dad |
| 6 | America's Retreat from Marriage |
| 9 | Check Your Ratios |
| 11 | Conference Examines the Future of Gambling in State |
| 12 | Can Reading the Bible Really Be a Joy? |
| 13 | Learning Servanthood |
| 14 | The Christian Teacher |
| 15 | Musical Notes |
| 16 | For Parents and Other Human Beings |
| 17 | Youth Focus |
| 19 | Children's Corner |
| 20 | Ministry Focus |
| 24 | Ministries Update |
| 31 | News Briefs |

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.* The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

# THE REASONS ARE MANY

The question is often asked, "Why aren't Free Will Baptist churches growing?" Needless to say, the reasons for this are many and quite complex. There are certain factors, however, that make growth difficult. It is my intention to point these out as best I can. Please note that this article is not to be taken as *the* final authority on the subject.

One of the first things we need to remember is this: The State Convention can have all the seminars, pass all the resolutions, and make all the declarations it wants to, but the conference is the highest tribunal. The Convention only has the power we "let" it have. Second, conferences are made up of local churches. To address the lack of growth situation, we must begin by looking there.

Marshall Shelley, in *Well-Intentioned Dragons,* conveys that churches are often habitats and breeding grounds for dragons. The mere existence of these individuals hampers growth and makes maintaining the status quo even difficult.

Who are these dragons? While there are too many to mention in detail, all can basically be placed in one of the following categories:

- *The Busybody,* who enjoys telling others how to do their jobs.
- *The Sniper,* who avoids face-to-face conflict but picks off pastors with pot shots in private conversation, such as the cryptic, "Be sure and pray for our pastor. He has some problems, you know."
- *The Bookkeeper,* who keeps written record of everything the pastor does that "isn't in the Spirit of Christ."
- *The Merchant of Muck,* who breeds dissatisfaction by attracting others who know he's more than willing to listen to, and elaborate on, things that are wrong in the church.
- *The Legalist,* whose list of absolutes stretches from the kind of car a pastor can drive to the number of verses in a hymn that must be sung (Shelley, pp. 40-41).

The worst dragons may be, in the beginning, the pastor's strongest supporters. They often work overhard initially at befriending the pastor. These individuals usually compare the pastor with the former minister and thrive when the church's formal authority and formal power structure do not match. These folk are often bred in counseling. Because the pastor is called on to counsel and learns so much about what makes them tick either a love or a hate relationship develops. (The latter comes when it is felt he knows too much.) Many once sensed a call to ministry—and did not follow that leading.

Saying that dragons exist may cause us to want to know how to identify them. We may ask, "What are their traits?" Following are some of the things they are best known for:

- Many dragons thrive on problems. These folks are not satisfied unless something—big or small (they really don't care which)—is wrong.
- Some dragons want the pastor to feel intimidated. Their logic is that he should never feel comfortable. (Maybe that makes sense to someone.)
- Some dragons play a game called, "Keeping Score." They can tell you every time the pastor does anything. The problem is, their lists are often distorted. They forget what they want to.
- Many dragons are self-centered. They believe their family, group or organization is the only one which needs attention. This trait often spills over and affects entire congregations. At that point, the comfort of the congregation becomes more important than anything else. Funds for local projects exceed missions giving. Churches with such a philosophy are nothing more than aquariums. (And we were called to be "fishers of men.")
- The motto of many dragons is "We've never done it that way before." It must be understood that this mentality makes growth impossible. In order for our churches to pass the 150-175 active members mark, it must be understood that we cannot operate business as usual! Things *must* change.
- Some dragons fail to understand that the world is changing. Now, that does not mean we should compromise our doctrine; it does, however, mean we may have to keep up with what is happening if we want to minister. Let me elaborate.

Ten to fifteen years ago, the most important people in all the world to young people were their families; in particular, their parents. Today, a teen's friends are number one to him (in most cases). This friend-orientation makes him want to be wherever his friend is and worship wherever that friend worships. That is one reason youth ministries should be more evangelistic.

It also needs to be remembered that young people are coming to terms with certain factors:

(Turn the Page)

They feel inferior about their intelligence level, their appearance, and their lack of or abundance of money. Instead of helping youth come to terms with these factors, we ignore where they are in life. We fail to address their true concerns and cannot understand why they leave the faith. Granted, some youth will leave the church. They may not adopt its teachings; their friends might worship elsewhere; they may not "like" the leaders; the reasons are many. At any rate, we must "educate" ourselves and know how to truly minister. (This education is based in listening and loving. It really cannot be "taught.") And youth ministry is much more than competition.

- Many dragons have little or no depth. They are not founded in God's Word, so they can easily be swayed. Their teachings and practices are anything but Free Will Baptist.
- Many dragons do not want to grow. You see, if growth comes, they may lose power. No longer will they be able to run everything. No longer will they give their stamp of approval to what is happening.

When new folks do come, these dragons make them feel uncomfortable. Oh, they might not stare, but they do not accept their presence with welcoming, open arms. They do not want the new folks to get in. As a result, their battle cry becomes "They haven't been here long enough to prove themselves." This might be understandable at first—but after several years it does not hold much water.

- Some dragons fail to see the importance of children's and young adult ministries. As a result we stand at risk when our "older" members die.
- Some dragons are Sunday morning people. I personally do not understand this. When I was quite young I was taught that anyone who loved God and his church attended everything appropriate to him for his own spiritual well-being and that of the church. Today most church members attend Sunday School and maybe morning worship. Many do not darken the doors of the church after the final "amen" is uttered on Sunday morning. This even applies to the church leadership.

Now dragons are best known for what comes out of their mouths. Usually they are flamethrowers. Often, though, the heat and smoke are not apparent. It is the noxious gas they emit that does the damage. While their tongues may be smooth, they are usually forked.

The attacks dragons launch seldom start with personal clashes. Instead, dragons tend to go to others in the congregation, seeking those of like mind who like to deal in dissent. They plant questions, some of which seem innocent enough. Their intention, however, is to raise doubts about the pastor's competence, credibility, ministry or motives. They love to talk to anyone but those who have the answers; and if you are ever confronted with a sentence which begins with a lot of flattery, watch out when the speaker says, "but . . . ." They are setting up for the kill.

A healthy congregation does not allow one or two members to set the church's direction or change its mission. Neither does it have to enter into open warfare. Sometimes the answer is being nice . . . and firm. Dragons need to be removed to the realm of the imagination. They make growth difficult.

Why aren't Free Will Baptist churches growing? We are facing a minister shortage. All things considered, it is understandable why many young people do not go into the ministry. Let me explain why.

Many churches do not want their pastors to lead them. They prefer to "do their own thing." This becomes particularly trying when churches begin to grow.

Many ministers are caught in a trap financially. Congregations fail to realize that the pastor should make at least the median salary of the congregation. Today, many ministers must get their real raises when moving to new churches. Otherwise, they just may not come. Congregations fail to see the need for cost of living raises, insurance coverage, retirement benefits, car compensation and educational assistance. Before becoming upset by me mentioning these things, consider what your employer does for you. Also, consider how much of his income, resources and energies your pastor puts back into the church.

Consider what it would be like to have no friends, people upon whom you could call to just talk. Because of his calling, ministers "cannot" get close to people. If he does, he may have to leave them; if he does, someone may say he has favorites. In reply, I only say Jesus had His inner circle. Those individuals offered Him solace, comfort, and companionship. As humans, we too need other people. One's ministry, however, is not limited to his friends. In fact, others usually receive more care because friends tend to be more understanding.

Famed preacher Stuart Briscoe cited the following as qualifications of a pastor: the mind of a scholar, the heart of a child, and the hide of a rhinoceros. Few men are now answering the call and we have a shortage of qualified ministers.

Whenever a pastor leaves a church, the ripple effect begins as churches look to see whose pastor they can hire. Many churches have found themselves without a pastor for over a year and wondered why someone "ran off" the man they had. Others have come to see that "Pastor X" wasn't so bad after all.

It is my opinion that each of us is either part of the problem or we are part of the solution. If we feel something needs to be done, let's take care of it. This does not take a lot of talk or hot air. It calls for you and me to roll up our sleeves and go to work! The boat captain in a storm knows that running before the gale can force him onto the rocks. Like him, we must face the problem directly.

While we are looking for answers, pointing fingers and fighting our "holy wars," many are dying without Christ. We can no longer use our energy to pass the buck, there is too much at stake. I personally intend to be part of the solution.

How about you?

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# Letter to Dad



There are so many things I'd like
To tell you face to face;
I either lack the words or fail
To find the time and place.
But in this special letter, Dad,
You'll find, at least in part,
The feelings that the passing years
Have left within my heart.

The memories of childhood days
And all that you have done,
To make our home a happy place
And growing up such fun!
I still recall the walks we took,
The games we often played;
Those confidential chats we had
While resting in the shade.

This letter comes to thank you, and,
For needed words of praise;
The counsel and the guidance, too,
That shaped my grown-up days.
No words of mine can tell you, Dad,
The things I really feel;
But you must know my love for you
Is lasting, warm and real.

You made my world a better place,
And through the coming years;
I'll keep these memories of you
As cherished souvenirs.

Author Unknown



# AMERICA'S RETREAT FROM MARRIAGE (Part Two)

*by Bryce J. Christensen*

Government policies during the 1960s and 1970s not only weakened marriage by taking in money, but also by giving it out. The dramatic growth of the welfare system since the early 1960s has made marriage appear unnecessary to many single women. Charles Murray has shown that current welfare benefits may actually encourage women not to marry. Recent studies have found that current welfare benefits actually seem both to inhibit new marriages and to weaken existing ones. One 20-state study found that the higher the available welfare payments, the lower the rate of remarriage among divorced women. Even Marian Wright Edelman admits the antimarital effects of welfare benefits, although she tried to put the best possible face on the matter: "Welfare—meaning the existence of a bare subsistence grant independent of the man's income—may make women less likely to enter into bad marriages, or more apt to leave ones that have turned bad."

But growing welfare benefits only partially account for America's "divorce revolution" of the last 20 years. Although American divorce rates had been inching up steadily since the turn of the century, they shot up remarkably after the enactment in the early 1970s of innovative "no fault" statutes permitting couples to divorce for no cause other than "irreconcilable differences." In many states, the new laws permitted one spouse unilaterally to terminate the marriage without grounds.

Author of a major study on the unintended side-effects of no-fault divorce, Weitzman observes that "a radical change in the rules for ending marriage inevitably affects the rules for marriage and itself and the intentions and expectations of those who enter it." No-fault divorce, she reasons, is now "redefining marriage as a time-limited, contingent arrangement rather than a lifelong commitment." Adding credibility to this line of analysis is Schoen's prediction that over 40 percent of marriages formed in recent years will end in divorce.

No-fault divorce was only one of the antimarital initiatives promoted by the feminist movement that emerged in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Because they saw in the family "patriarchy's chief institution," feminists launched many attacks on marriage. What began in 1963 with Betty Friedan's fairly restrained complaint that early marriage was "regressive" and an obstacle to "women's growth to autonomy" soon amplified into hysterical rant. In 1971, Germaine Greer indicted marriage for laying the foundations of "the prison of domesticity." "Rape is the first model of marriage," shrieked Andrea Dworkin in 1975. Dworkin decried the awful pattern of "male domination in Amerika [sic]," where "every married man, no

matter how poor, owned one slave—his wife." The same year, Susan Brownmiller struck a similar chord when she alleged that marriage and rape were "philosophically entwined" and that it was "largely impossible to separate them."

Despite the defeat of the Equal Rights Amendment, the feminist movement has largely succeeded in abolishing the traditional gender prescriptions that once governed the nation's schools and work places. During the 1970s feminism helped to coax, encourage, and push record numbers into paid employment, while insuring that women received "equal pay for equal work" in their wage competition with men. The new cultural and economic relationships between the sexes have profoundly undermined marriage. Davis points out that in the past marriage has rested upon the principle of "complementarity," requiring "a differential commitment to childbearing and child care" and "a division of economic labor, with husband and wife pursuing different activities in the production of goods." The prominent economist Gary Becker corroborates Davis' views in a probing analysis proving that marriage makes the greatest financial sense when men and women offer one another different kinds of services. In the past, wives have "traded" homemaking and childrearing for a share of their husband's income. In modern America, Becker observes, "the gain from marriage is reduced by a rise in the earnings and labor force participation of women and by a fall in fertility because a sexual division of labor becomes less advantageous."

Feminism has weakened the economic logic of marriage by putting more women into paid employment and their (usually few) children into day care. At the same time, the new competitive pressures in the wage market have seriously eroded the average man's ability to earn a "family wage" sufficient to support a wife and family. Even Robert S. McElvaine, former speech-writer for Walter Mondale, believes that the massive movement of American women into the work force between 1965 and 1980 was "detrimental to the economy" with a "depressing effect on real income levels." In 1973, almost 60 percent of young men aged 20-24 could earn enough to keep a family of three out of poverty, but by 1984 only 42 percent could.

The harmful effects of female employment upon marriage are especially visible in countries such as Sweden and Denmark, where feminist policies have been in effect longer. Danish demographer Paul C. Mathiessen offers this assessment of why marriage rates have plummeted in Sweden and Denmark while divorce rates have climbed: "The improved economic position of women—a result of their increased participation in the labour force—has probably contributed to the decline in the number of new legal unions (marriages). The woman's earning ability has made marriage less important as a means of support . . . It is also probable that the woman's improved economic position has contributed to an increase in dissolution of marriages which have failed to meet the expectations of the couples concerned."

**Picking up the pieces**

Some might suppose that more widespread cohabitation might in time ease the effects of the nation's retreat from marriage. Ten years ago some observers did harbor such hopes. But recent research has shown that cohabitation proves far less stable and far less fertile than marriage. Partly because the average cohabitational union lasts about one sixth as long as the average marriage and partly because cohabiting couples practice contraception more than married couples, cohabiting couples are only one half as likely as married couples to have children in the household. Even when it leads to marriage, cohabitation appears to increase the likelihood of divorce and to diminish prospects for marital happiness.

What, then, can be done to reverse America's flight from wedlock? First, government leaders can step up the war against pornography. After opening the flood gates with the "Fanny Hill" ruling of 1966, the Supreme Court did partly rehabilitate local censorship powers in 1973 in *Miller v. California* by allowing authorities to ban materials that offend "contemporary community standards" of decency. (Unfortunately, while most states added the "redeeming social value" test to their obscenity laws in order to make them pass judicial muster in the late 1960s, many still have not removed that debilitating standard, even though the Supreme Court has now wisely abandoned it.) In many areas, vigorous law enforcement and community action are making a difference. Atlanta officials, for example, have shown how the war against smut can be won. Between 1979 and 1981, the Solicitor General for Fulton County was successful in driving the adult bookstores and pornographic movie houses out of the city by enforcing the city's antiobscenity ordinance, levying fines of $605,000 in a single year with a collection rate of 65 percent.

(Turn the Page)

Paul J. McGeady, general counsel for Morality in Media, cites Atlanta as an example of what can happen when officials "simply enforce the law . . . consistently." McGeady also applauds Ft. Lauderdale, where effective law enforcement has not only closed down all of the adult bookstores and pornographic movie houses, but has also stopped the sale and rental of X-rated videos. Even groups acting without legal sanctions can make a difference: in April, 1986, a consumer boycott persuaded the huge 7-Eleven chain to remove its soft-porn magazines—*Playboy, Penthouse,* and *Forum* from its stores. Nationally, the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography provided a new impetus against obscenity two years ago with its compelling call for "the effective enforcement of obscenity laws."

Though unfairly pilloried by some media commentators, the Commission's report laid out in plain detail the magnitude of the obscenity problem, the harmful social consequences, and the need to redouble the legal effort against pornography. In underscoring "the community significance of pornography," the report noted particularly how pornography serves to "undermine the values underlying the family unit." One Commission member observed that "love, affection, marriage, procreation, and responsibility are absolutely irrelevant to sexual conduct" as depicted in pornography. For the sake of marriage and the family, federal and local officials need to step up their fight against obscenity.

Removing the antimarital bias of the welfare system may prove even harder than stamping out pornography. New experiments in workfare and learnfare may help. As an even more drastic measure, social historians Maris Vinovskis and P. Lindsay Chase-Lansdale have proposed that the government temporarily subsidize teen marriages as a way of stopping the welfare-illegitimacy cycle.

Cultural pressures make a complete rollback of no-fault divorce appear unlikely in the near future. But at least current statutes permitting unilateral abrogation of marriage could be changed, so removing one cause of marital insecurity. "The no consent role," Weitzman observes, "shifts the power from the party who wants to stay married to the one who wants to get divorced."

But perhaps the most important policy step that can be taken to halt the retreat from marriage is to take the government out of the business of sex-role engineering. Most Americans concede that pornography is bad, divorce unfortunate, family tax loads burdensome, and welfare dubious. But too many believe that government-enforced equality between the sexes is an unmixed good. Feminist propaganda has effectively highlighted the benefits of female labor-force participation, especially in nontraditional fields, while suppressing every hint of the real costs of the sex-role revolution. Public support for feminist social engineers would significantly decline if more people understood how it has reduced the nation's marriage rate, depressed its fertility, produced a generation of impoverished and vulnerable children, and elevated crime and suicide rates.

Though it provides a hypnotizing political slogan for the feminist cause, the "civil rights" formula is misleading when applied to gender issues. "Sexism," whatever it is, cannot legitimately be equated with racism. The minor inconveniences suffered by upper-middle-class white women pale to nothing when compared to the real suffering of generations of American blacks.

Edelman has recently argued that the massive movement of women into the work place during the 1970s has made it much harder for black men to find jobs, thus lowering the black marriage rate and elevating the black illegitimacy rate. Just possibly, many minorities would support those with the political courage to challenge the feminist agenda.

Taken together, these political and economic measures would only partially reverse the decline in marriage. The erosion of religious faith, the rise of commercial hedonism, and other cultural trends weakening marriage lie beyond the direct control of government leaders in a free republic. Harvard sociologist Pitirim Sorokin believed that only dynamic spiritual leaders—"new Saint Pauls, Saint Augustines, and great religious and ethical leaders"—could decisively defeat the 20th-century forces responsible for the decline of the family. Only through an elevated spiritual vision can Americans transcend the modern notion of wedlock as simply a working contract between two individuals and so restore the older understanding of marriage as a divinely ordained union within which husband and wife become truly "one flesh" (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5). But prudent public policy can at least help to safeguard the family's basic economic and social functions. Current circumstances demand this at a minimum. Trends started decades ago will not be reversed overnight, but costs and casualties will multiply dangerously if America does not soon reverse its national retreat from marriage.

Reprinted from *AFA Journal,* April 1988.



# CHECK YOUR RATIOS!

*by Jan Cagno*

This is the time when most Sunday Schools are planning ahead for the coming year. Calendars are being completed and schedules worked out. It is also a good time of year to check on the success of your Sunday School. Sometimes we are tempted to coast along doing things as they've always been done, never questioning whether we will be meeting the needs

(Turn the Page)

of the Sunday School members in 1988.

In his *Growth Report for the Institute for American Church Growth,* Dr. Win Arn gives some interesting ratios which will influence your Sunday School growth. Perhaps you should see how your Sunday School compares. First he suggests that your **New Class Ratio** should be 1:5. That is one of every 5 classes in your Sunday School should have been started during the last 2 years. This helps prevent close knit cliques which produce plateaus of growth.

**Your Visitor Attendance Ratio** should be 1:20 according to Dr. Arn. Visitors are an accurate forecast of growth. Therefore you should have at least 1 visitor for every 20 members of your Sunday School.

**Attendance to Enrollment Ratio** is also important. 7:10 is the suggested ratio. For every 10 students on your rolls, 7 should be in attendance. If your ratio is lower, you should seek for reasons why that is the case.

Win Arn indicates that the success of your Sunday School may be jeopardized by a poor **Teacher-Pupil Ratio.** The accepted ratios are for children, 1: age level and for adults a maximum ratio of 1:35. (In the children's ratio an example is, if your students are age 4, you need 1 teacher for every 4 students . . . if age 9, it would be 1 teacher for every 9 students, etc.)

The **Worship to Sunday School Ratio** often reveals the importance of your Sunday School in the total church program. Dr. Arn feels that a realistic ratio is 10:7, 7 Sunday School students for every 10 in the worship service.

The **Sunday School to Worship** ratio should be even higher: 9:10. For every 10 in your Sunday School, 9 should be in worship. This may vary some because your little ones may be cared for in the nursery during worship services or have their own worship services.

However there is more involved in a successful Sunday School than just attendance statistics as everyone knows. Dr. Arn lists 3 more sets of ratios which are vitally important to any Sunday School which is dedicated to reaching needs and manifesting growth. He declares that the **Evangelism Ratio** should be 1:3. That means 1 of every 3 adults in the Sunday School should have received outreach training in the past year. He further states that social activity is an important part of any Sunday School. The **Social Activity Ratio** should be 1:12. Each class needs to share some type of social activity every 12 weeks. These will be strong relationship builders. Finally, the **Teacher Training Ratio** is often neglected and yet it can be one of the greatest factors of success or failure in any Sunday School. It is suggested that a teacher training event should be offered to all Sunday School teachers once every 2 months (1:2). These training events should cover the entire gamut of teaching responsibilities and should be carefully planned to encourage a high standard of competence.

Check your ratios! How do you measure up? As the new year moves along we can all strive to improve our ratios for a better Sunday School.

Used by permission of *United Evangelical.*

## Trips for the 1988 Summer Cragmont Women's Conferences

(Both Weeks Will Follow the Same Schedule)

Tuesday: Asheville Mall and Farmer's Market (app. cost $1.)
Wednesday: Gatlinburg, Tennessee—Christus Gardens
Townsend, Tennessee—Smokey Mountain Passion Play (app. cost $20.)
Thursday: Biltmore House—(app. cost $20.)
Friday: Black Mountain—(app. cost $1.)
The Summer Cragmont Women's Conferences are
Week I: August 1-6
Week II: August 8-13

For Information Contact Co-Directors:
Dola Dudley
510 Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
Phone: (919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
Phone: (919) 332-6810

Send Registration Fee to: Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580
Phone (919) 747-3688

Cost for Week: Registration—$10.
Due on Arrival—$80.
Total—$90.

# Conference Examines the Future of Gambling in State

"If pari-mutuel gambling or a lottery is legalized in North Carolina a whole new generation of gamblers will be created here," participants at a recent conference in Raleigh, NC, on gambling were told.

Austin McGuigan, former chief state's attorney for Connecticut, added that if gambling is legalized, "Organized crime will prey on those people and organized crime will move into this state. I can tell you our experience in Connecticut has been that organized crime moved in when we got legalized gambling. That's what has transpired in every state when gambling was legalized."

McGuigan was among seven speakers at the day-long conference co-sponsored by the Christian Action League of North Carolina, the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and the State Convention Council in Christian Life and Public Affairs.

Other program personalities were: Larry Baker, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, Southern Baptist Convention; Larry Braidfoot, general counsel for the Commission; Coy Privette, member of the North Carolina House of Representatives and executive director of the Christian Action League; Doug Cole, executive director of the Council on Christian Life and Public Affairs, Baptist State Convention; George Reed, director of Christian Citizenship Education for the Council; and George Kloster, pastor of St. Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro, and president of the North Carolina Council of Churches.

Topics of discussion at the conference included: Gambling and Christian Faith, Legalized Gambling: One Man's Experience; Parimutuel Gambling and State-Operated Lotteries: Promises and Performances; Gambling Legislation in North Carolina; Gambling and the Ballot Box; and Being Morally Responsible.

Privette called special attention to a bill pending in the North Carolina Senate that mandates a statewide referendum to permit pari-mutuel gambling on horse and dog racing. The North Carolina representative from the state's 34th district said Senate Bill 732, sponsored by Sen. Kenneth C. Royall Jr., D-Durham, is bad public policy.

Several copies of informational materials about gambling were distributed by Privette, including a suggested resolution opposing Senate Bill 732 which can be sent to State House and Senate members by interested persons.

"The reason I'm opposed to Senate Bill 732 is because it is bad public policy for this state to depend upon gambling revenues to pay school teachers. How in the world is some parent going to say to his sixth grader, 'Son, you shouldn't gamble,' when that son says, 'Well, Daddy, the state's in the gambling business and happens to pay my teacher's salary.' "

Throughout the conference the devastating effects of gambling and the oppressive nature of legalized gambling on a state's citizenry were highlighted.

The head of North Carolina's Council on Churches urged the rejection of pari-mutuel and lottery gambling based on "scriptural heritage." Pastor Kloster said legalized gambling enslaves, oppresses and victimizes people. Scripture plainly says, Kloster noted, that God is opposed to anything and everything that entraps His children.

Income is also on the decline for the pari-mutuel business, according to Braidfoot. He cited several examples of racetracks which are in deep financial trouble. A Birmingham, Alabama, track lost $13 million in its first year of operation and a Colorado track was sold in bankruptcy to make room for a new shopping mall, according to the Christian Life Commission's general counsel.

With that kind of track record, Braidfoot asked how supporters of pari-mutuel gambling in North Carolina can claim the state will benefit from an "economic shot in the arm" if legalized gambling is permitted.

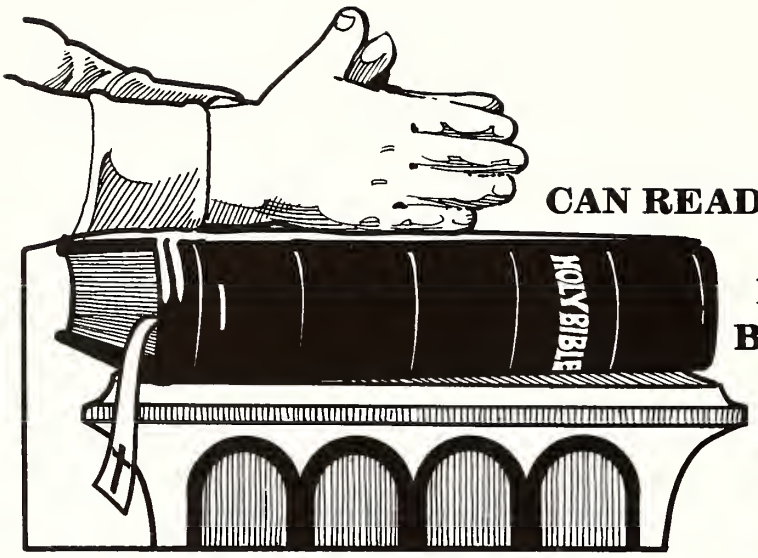
Decisions made at the ballot box in November may well determine if legalized gambling is in North Carolina's future, Reed warned. The Christian Life and Public Affairs staff member urged those present to register for the elections, vote in the elections and know where candidates stand on the issues.

The leader of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission challenged North Carolina citizens to "stay in the fray" and give the battle against legalized gambling "the best energy" you can. Baker said Christians should always be concerned about everything that "inhibits us from being what God created us to be."

Reprinted from *The Biblical Recorder*, May 7, 1988.

**NOTE**

In *The Free Will Baptist* for January, 1988, page 17, and in the Retirement Homes report given out at the Woman's Auxiliary Conventions, the phone number for the Rev. Ed Taylor was wrong. His correct number is 934-9940.




# CAN READING THE BIBLE REALLY BE A JOY?

*by the Rev. Gray M. Bailey*

Christians everywhere are encouraged to read the Bible. From the pulpit to the Sunday School classroom, we are told that we should be in a daily Bible reading habit.

If the truth was known, most Christians do not read the Bible daily. Probably most Christians do not read the Bible at all. They rely on someone else to read and interpret the Scriptures for them. Does this sound familiar?

Many of us have had a negative experience with Bible reading. We have felt the guilt of "not reading" and have set out to change that. We picked up the family Bible and began to read. We did not expect to understand, and we did not understand. Even though the words were in English, the sentences could not be understood. Before we finished a paragraph or even one half of a chapter, we realized that what we had read did not mean anything at all. So the Bible was put back to its usual resting place. We thought of how difficut it was, and we did not read any more.

Bible reading does not have to be as negative as the above illustration. Reading God's Word should be challenging, refreshing and a joy. It can be! It must be! It will be! How? By reading with a plan.

To read by a plan does not mean reading three, four or five chapters per day so that one can completely read through the entire Bible in a year. Reading through in one year is not an unrealistic goal. However, for most Christians who have never really studied the Bible, trying to read through in one year may become very frustrating. Most Christians who have never really read and understood the Scriptures will stop before the year is one third passed, or sooner.

What kind of plan do I suggest? A very simple plan. It is outlined below.

**First, select a translation you understand and enjoy.** This is very important. To fully benefit from the Scriptures you must read in a language you understand. Personally I like *Today's English Version* and *The New International Version.*

**Second, choose short passages to read.** This may be a chapter, but more than likely it will be only a portion of a chapter. In many "modern" translations passages are arranged in paragraph form. Some translations have subtitles within the chapters. Choose one or two short passages to read in one sitting.

**Third, have beside your Bible a one-volume commentary or Bible handbook.** Your Christian bookstore will have a variety from which you can choose. Again, my personal preference is the *Interpreter's One-Volume Bible Commentary* and *Halley's Bible Handbook.* It is imperative that you have this type commentary. Bible scholars have prepared these study books to give us the background of the Scriptures. Knowing who wrote and under what circumstances or knowing to whom the writings were written for originally makes the meaning of the passage clear to us.

**Fourth, read slowly, seeing every word.** It is more important that you understand what you read than it is that you read a lot. When you finish reading, go back and reread the passage.

**Fifth, after reading through the second time, look at the entire passage.** Bring to mind questions you would like to ask about what you have read. Questions might be: What is the main theme? Who is the writer? Who is he speaking to? What caused him to write on this subject? Who is the character in the passage? What is his/her background? What makes him/her important? How can I apply this to my life? What does God want to say to me? Think through your questions and meditate allowing God to speak directly to you. He will!

Bible reading can be a joy! It will take some discipline. Reading every day is a worthy goal, but if you cannot read daily do not avoid reading at all. Read the Bible when you can, using the suggested plan. You will find a joy in Bible reading that may encourage you to read more often. Yes, Bible reading can be a joy!

(The writer is pastor of Stoney Creek Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina.

# TWO FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF GOD WHO SERVED AT ROSE OF SHARON CHURCH

*by Rev. Foy Futrelle*

*"His Lord said unto him, well done thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"* (Matthew 25:21).

Jesse Irvin Mizell Sr., born of Jesse Edmond and Della Cratt Mizell, May 16, 1917, died January 5, 1988. He married Ada Louise Harris, of Bath, North Carolina, February 18, 1950. To this union was born one son and two daughters. Jesse Irvin was a very faithful servant of the Lord, having given a life of service to his Lord at Rose of Sharon. He accepted Christ as a teenage boy and became a member of Rose of Sharon for the rest of his life. He was a charter member of the Sunday School (organized February 9, 1935). He was ordained a deacon, July 13, 1975, remaining active in this capacity until sickness overcame him in January, 1985. He served as a trustee until death and was on the Building Committee for many years.

Jesse was a builder by trade. As a builder, he spent many hours working on the fellowship hall, church building and parsonage. Not only a builder of buildings at church, he constantly used his material things and spiritual wisdom to build character in young boys and girls, as well as his own children.

". . . and by it he being dead yet speaketh" (Hebrews 11:4). Today he speaketh through his son and two daughters and other young people he influenced in his life.

Marvin "Shepherd" Cowan was born of Warner and Bessie Terry Cowan, July 23, 1908; he died January 29, 1988. Marvin married Zelma Roebuck, of the Bear Grass community, on September 15, 1927. To this union was born one son. Brother Marvin accepted Christ as his Saviour when a teenage boy and united with the church. He was ordained as a deacon in 1929 and served continually (excepting for the year 1984 when he rotated off for one year). He served on the Building Committee, was treasurer of the Sunday School and church for many years. He was a charter member and organizer of our Sunday School and served in many different positions and teacher of Sunday School classes.

"Mr. Marvin," as he was affectionately called, was always willing to share his time, talents, and resources with his church and Sunday School. He worked many hours repairing and building new buildings at the church he loved. "Mr. Marvin" had a great influence on the lives of two young men who grew up in the Rose of Sharon Church and they are outstanding ministers in our denomination today.

"Mr. Marvin" cared for the needy of the community by seeing that their physical and spiritual needs were met. Truly he was a great "under-shepherd." Letting Jesus be his shepherd, he followed after Him.

These two brethren were very special Christian men to me. Each sat on a different side of the church. Their places will be hard to fill. Yet each of us have a challenge to follow in their footsteps, being a humble servant, so one day we too can hear "well done thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:21).

## PREPARING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

The staff at the Free Will Baptist Press is always ready to help you get your news items and articles published. Following are some tips for making the process easier.

1. Typewrite all copy. Use 8½ x 11 inch paper; smaller paper can get lost or misplaced. Do not strike over letters, and make all erasures as neat as possible. Be sure that the typewriter ribbon gives a clear copy.

2. Keep a copy of all material typed. This will avoid the possibility of having to redo the item in case of loss.

3. Indicate the title of the article approximately two inches down from the top of page one. Leave an inch and a half at the top of each succeeding page; and for convenience of editing, please number succeeding pages. Type on one side of page only.

4. Leave a margin of at least an inch on both sides of paper.

5. Never write perpendicularly in the margin.

6. Write no more than one article on a sheet.

7. Do not divide a word between pages. Avoid dividing words between lines as much as possible.

8. Clip pages together, using paper clips. Do not staple pages.

9. Read, reread, and correct your own copy before submitting this. This is most important and will expedite matters greatly toward early publication.

10. If words, phrases, or sentences are of particular importance to the point of needing to be emphasized, indicate such by underlining or underscoring.

11. Observe and practice the proper rules of grammar and punctuation, inasmuch as possible.

(Continued on Page 32)

# "WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?"

*by Bass Mitchell*

"The church asked me to be superintendent of the Sunday School but no one has told me what I'm supposed to do. What am I supposed to do?"

Ever found yourself saying this in one way or another? Don't feel alone. Many superintendents are confused and uncertain about their responsibilities. The purpose of this article is to help you clarify your duties.

Now the precise duties of Sunday School superintendents may vary from church to church. However, the duties listed below are the general things required of most superintendents.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

_____ 1. Pray daily for the Sunday School, including all its officers, teachers, and pupils.
_____ 2. Be constantly learning more about the work of the Sunday School.
_____ 3. Always seeking ways to improve the Sunday School.
_____ 4. Grow in the understanding of the work of the superintendent and in the ability to do that work.
_____ 5. Help plan and lead Sunday School assemblies.
_____ 6. Act as chairperson of the Sunday School council/cabinet and/or serve on the Board of Christian Education.
_____ 7. Plan the agenda for each Sunday School council meeting.
_____ 8. Help establish policies for the Sunday School and see to it that they are explained and followed.
_____ 9. Follow-up on absent teachers and officers.
_____ 10. Visit and minister to Sunday School workers during times of sickness and crisis.
_____ 11. Make announcements about the Sunday School in other church services and promote the Sunday School in every way possible.
_____ 12. Give a quarterly report on the Sunday School to the whole church.
_____ 13. See to it that substitute teachers are provided when needed.
_____ 14. Act as a substitute teacher when needed.
_____ 15. Assist in the training of teachers.
_____ 16. Support and supervise all Sunday School workers.
_____ 17. Make sure that needed supplies and equipment are available.
_____ 18. Sit in on classes whenever possible.
_____ 19. Order literature and supplies.
_____ 20. Assist in selecting and recruiting Sunday School workers.
_____ 21. Actively participate in denominational programs related to the ministry of Christian education.
_____ 22. See to it that accurate Sunday School records are kept.
_____ 23. Prevent and help solve problems.
_____ 24. Periodically evaluate the Sunday School in light of stated goals and objectives.

**"WOW!"**

At a workshop for superintendents, one of them asked me, "Well, what are we supposed to do?" I read the above list to him. His response was, "Sorry I asked!"

Maybe you feel the same way. That's ok. You should feel overwhelmed and even inadequate. Being a superintendent, if you really take it seriously, is a tremendous task. But if God has called you to it, then God will help you do it!

**A WORD OF ADVICE**

Don't feel that you have to be able to do all these things right now and do them well. Some you already do well. Others need some work.

Go back and look over the list. Put a check beside the ones you feel that you do well. Place an "x" beside the ones you need to work on. Select the one that needs the most attention and study from you right at the present and focus on it. Read up on it. Check on resources available to help you learn about it and how to effectively carry it out. Then select another one.

You are fortunate in that there are more resources available today for the superintendent than ever before. Seek, and you'll find them.

You may need to add to or take away from the list of duties above. That's good. The important thing, whether you are a new or experienced superintendent, is to spend as much time as you need in clarifying your duties. Then the real work begins—doing them!



# JOYFUL NOISES

*by Jack and Julia Bircher*

Hello, it is summer again! Hustle and bustle continues for all of you we're sure, but remember to keep scheduling your musical worship times!

It has been a couple of months since we have offered any tidbits of *Joyful Noises,* but I would like to introduce all those who have an interest and responsibility in worship music to an excellent publication. *Music Revelation* is a monthly newsletter which highlights interesting articles, music reviews and notes on new products for music and worship. The address is: Music Revelation, 7 Elmwood Court, Rockville, MD 20850.

The following article is a reprint from that publication. I hope you enjoy it. Since most of our readers are choir **members,** I thought that the following would be of interest (copyright by *Music Revelation,* used by special permission).

**Take Me To Your Leader**

A choir director is a strange bird. He struts and frets upon a "stage" pulled hither and yon by more elements than you and I can ever imagine.

Each director has his/her own set of directing peculiarities (no offense intended) which characterizes his/her own conducting style. The director may unwisely assume that once he has explained what the various gestures mean, each choir member will remember what a particular gesture is supposed to produce. I hate to disillusion the director, but it just ain't so.

Sometimes as a choir member, I have witnessed some very strange directing. When the choir did not respond, the director was genuinely perplexed. Once he realized that the choir simply didn't understand his gyrations, he explained them again—and again—and again ad nauseam. Overkill isn't the answer either. There has to be a happy medium.

I don't envy a director his task: There are a myriad of cues that he must pay attention to in order that the sound of the choir is at its best. But a choir member must pay attention as well. I've said it before, but it certainly bears repeating—**singing takes concentration.** Concentration on the words, the music, the phrasing, the breathing, the dynamics, and so on.

Thankfully, we don't have to do this alone! A director can expertly lead us through any piece of music **if** he has **our** attention.

Nothing can be more frustrating for the director than to have the choir staring at the music constantly (even through the rests or sustained notes) while he is frantically trying to conduct his choir through the music.

I stand in awe of a director. He can hear sounds in a choir that no one else hears. He can pick out a part that is out of tune faster than we can sing it. The director must not only lead the choir musically, worrying about lyrics, phrases, breathing, posture, appearance, communication, and so on, but also be the spiritual leader of the choir—a task that many fail to see as a priority in a choir rehearsal. But I submit that without spiritual leadership, we might as well belong to a secular musical group—performing, not worshiping.

I repeat—I stand in awe of a choir director—even if he is a strange bird!

**DEATH AND GRIEF WORKSHOPS**

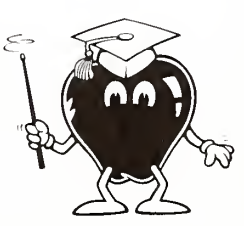
Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt, director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado, continues to conduct "Death and Grief" workshops throughout the country.

During the next few months he is scheduled to present workshops in the following locations: Schenectady, New York; Glenn Ellyn, Illinois; Kingsport, Tennessee; Elizabethton, Tennessee; Hampton, Virginia; Wichita, Kansas; Arkansas City, Kansas; Garden City, Kansas; and Fort Worth, Texas.

These workshops are for the general public as well as professionals who are interested in learning more about the experience of grief. Several of the workshops are sponsored by state school counselors associations and are focused specifically on the topic of "Helping Children Cope With Grief." Other sponsors include funeral homes, hospices, hospitals, state funeral directors associations, and universities. For information regarding sponsorship of a workshop in your community, you may contact the Center for Loss and Life Transition, 3735 Broken Bow Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526; or phone 303-484-1313.

Among Dr. Wolfelt's publications are the books *Death and Grief: A Guide for Clergy,* and *Helping Children Cope With Grief.* He also serves as the contributing editor of the "children and grief" section of *Bereavement Magazine.*

**Congratulations to the members of the Class of '88!**



# Adult Whose Child Is Enrolled Visitation Approaches Toward the in Sunday School

Many unsaved and unenlisted adults have made it possible for their children to enroll in Sunday School; yet, they have not seen their personal need for Bible study. Some suggestions for meeting the spiritual needs of these adult prospects through visitation are given below.

These guidelines may be used during the officers and teachers' meeting to prepare cradle roll, extension, and adult workers to visit appropriately adult prospects whose children are enrolled in Sunday School. Also, adult teachers may use the guidelines during monthly class meetings to equip class officers to visit this group of adult prospects.

A. *Have the right attitude toward the adult prospect whose child (or children) is enrolled in Sunday School.*

(1) Desire the salvation and spiritual growth of the prospect for his own welfare, rather than for what he can do for the church, department, or class.

(2) Refrain from a holier-than-thou attitude. The measure of goodness a Christian possesses is possible only through the grace of God.

(3) Guard against a spirit of condemnation. Love and concern, not censure and judgment, should be the attitude of the Christian toward the non-Christian.

B. *Cultivate the friendship of the adult prospect whose child (or children) is enrolled in Sunday School.*

(1) Approach the prospect in the spirit of courtesy, friendliness, and heartfelt concern.

(2) Learn as much as possible about the prospect, such as how long he has lived in the community, what his occupation is, whether he has attended any of the churches in the community, and whether he is a member of a church.

(3) Pace the conversation about spiritual things in keeping with the interest and response of the prospect. Usually many visits are needed to gain the confidence of the prospect and to establish a relationship that will contribute to attendance.

(4) Keep on cultivating the prospect until he engages in Bible study.

C. *Identify with a child (or children) enrolled in Sunday School.*

(1) Become acquainted with the child.

(2) Refer to the workers in the child's department or class.

(3) Commend the parent and child for the child's attendance.

(4) Emphasize the value of the Bible study program for the child.

(5) Magnify the cumulative value to the child when both parents participate in the Bible study program with the child.

D. *Strengthen the concept that one never outgrows the need for Bible study.*

(1) Point out that learning is life-long.

(2) Suggest that the responsibilities in adulthood require wisdom and skill.

(3) Indicate that experiences in adulthood are enriched by Bible study.

(4) Recall that in adulthood one has teaching and leadership responsibilities.

E. *Stress the value of Bible study in fulfilling home-family responsibilities.*

(1) Shows God's plan and purpose for the home.

(2) Reveals Christ's teachings on harmonious living within the family.

(3) Aids in religiously teaching the child.

(4) Helps to make the home and family a Christian witness in the community.

F. *Appeal to the prospect on the basis of his own need.*

(1) When visiting an adult prospect who is a church member, refer to the church member's love for the Lord and his desire to have the Lord's will done in his life. Use injunctions from the Scriptures, such as Hebrews 10:25; Psalm 119:11; 1 Timothy 4:12; and Exodus 20:8.

(2) When visiting an adult prospect who is unsaved, appeal to the unsaved person's desire to live at peace with himself and at peace with God. Use scriptural admonitions such as Matthew 6:33; 1 John 5:11; Ephesians 2:8; and Romans 8:1.

—Copied

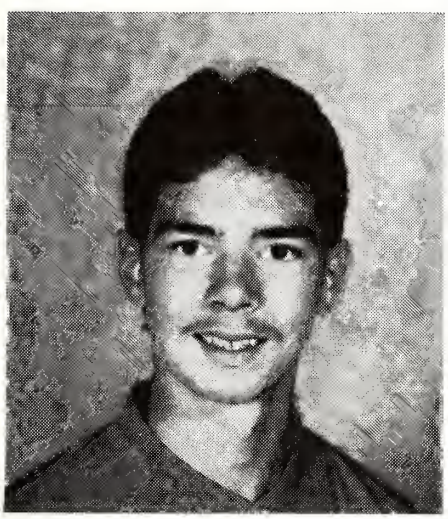
# 1988 Convention News

Mount Olive College was the scene of the 1988 State Youth Convention held May 13-15. Becky Howell, a member of Riverside Church, Cape Fear Conference, was elected President. Her two-year term ends in 1990. Becky is pictured here during the installation service.

Others elected were Mark Lanier, vice president; Valerie Penny, outreach/corresponding secretary; Loretta Morris, treasurer; and Jennifer Barefoot, recording secretary.



**VICE PRESIDENT**



**Mark Lanier**
Sandy Plain Church
Eastern Conference

**OUTREACH/CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**



**Valerie Penny**
Beaverdam Church
Pee Dee Conference

**TREASURER**



**Loretta Morris**
Marlboro Church
Central Conference

## RECORDING SECRETARY



**Jennifer Barefoot**
Robert's Grove Church
Cape Fear Conference



These Fayetteville youth enthusiastically await the beginning of the Convention.



Dianne Riley confers with Suzanne Coates during the Convention.



The nationally acclaimed ventriloquist team of Anita and David appeared at the 1988 State Youth Convention. Anita Reaves, the "voice" for David, began her ventriloquist career while in fifth grade, using a doll that was a Christmas present. She practiced and perfected her talent, almost on a daily basis, utilizing local Sunday School children and church groups for her audiences. In 1973, her parents purchased "David" from a Professional Theatrical Company in Colorado and presented him to Anita. They've been an inspiring and inspirational team ever since. When a reporter asked Anita how she'd like best to be remembered, she replied, "A servant of God who gave the message that salvation is a gift to be received, not a goal to be obtained." Anita and David relocated to Madison, North Carolina, in 1986, where they have become a part of Hopper-Sing Productions.

# SCRIPTURE CAKE

*by Lynette Sumerlin*

Almost everybody likes cake. Unfortunately, for our waistlines, some of us like it too much! What's your favorite kind—chocolate, pineapple, strawberry, coconut? I'm sure you have tried many different kinds, but have you ever eaten "Scripture cake?" Try to figure out the recipe below, and then you might even want to bake one!

1. Cream ½ cup of Psalm 55:21 until light.

2. Blend in ¾ cup of Jeremiah 6:20.

3. Stir together 2 cups of plain 1 Kings 4:22, ½ teaspoon Amos 4:5, dash of Luke 14:34, and 1 teaspoon 2 Chronicles 9:9.

4. Mix 3 Isaiah 10:14, ½ cup Judges 4:19, and ⅓ cup 1 Samuel 14:25.

5. Follow instructions in Proverbs 23:14, using all of the ingredients so far.

6. Stir in 1 cup 2 Samuel 16:1, 1 cup chopped dried Nahum 3:12, and ½ cup chopped Numbers 17:8.

7. Put mixture into greased and floured 9" x 5" x 3" loaf pan. Bake 40 minutes at 325°. Loosely cover with foil and bake 50 minutes more.

8. Cool in pan for 10 minutes. Remove from pan.

9. Cool and slice after a few John 11:9.

10. Eat and enjoy!

# CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY



## History

Cragmont Assembly was established in 1945-46 by the united efforts of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. The property formerly housed a private sanitorium known as Craigmont Sanitorium. The property consists of 115 acres on the slopes of Mount Allen just north of Black Mountain, North Carolina, on North Fork Road. The initial purchase price of $10,000 was raised and paid off within six months after the property was deemed suitable for camping and retreats. We thank God for the foresight of our forefathers in making this wise investment in the denomination's future.

When purchased, the property consisted of one three-story main building and several smaller buildings. Some time later, an eight unit motel, a gym, and two small renovated dwellings were added. In 1971, two dormitory complexes were added, followed by a Kitchen-Dining Hall in 1974. As a result of much hard work, financial drives, and prayer, the 1979 camping season was opened in the new Main Building and Chapel. The total evaluation of the property now is approximately $1,500,000. God has richly blessed our ministry at Cragmont.

Cragmont's mission has been stated by one of its most ardent supporters in three words: *Inspiration, Instruction,* and *Recreation.* From its beginning, conferences, camps, and retreats have been planned for the spring, summer, and fall. In all conferences, plans are made for helpful instruction, inspiration, and wholesome recreation. Many happy hours are spent on hikes, planned outings, or just sitting in the rocking chairs on the front porch enjoying the beauty of the valley across from Mount Allen. Participants learn that Christianity, if it is to be genuine, must encompass one's entire being.

Cragmont has been described as our "Summer Youth Camp." Certainly it is, but it is so much more. From its inception, it was designed to accommodate all our people. Today, there are six youth weeks, two woman's auxiliary weeks, plus a weekend; one week for Original Free Will Baptist Ministers and one week for General Baptist Ministers. The use of Cragmont by church groups for spring and fall retreats is increasing in popularity. Vacationers are invited to use Cragmont for overnight lodging, as space is available, except in the winter. Cragmont has much to offer people of all ages. Plan to use it this year!

Cragmont's future is as bright as we allow it to be. Your support with gifts, prayers, and presence must be continuous to insure its future growth, progress, and ministry.

## Weeks of Conferences and Their Sponsors

We have nine weeks of conferences each year. Below you will find these weeks listed along with each sponsoring body.

| | |
|---|---|
| General Youth Conference | State Sunday School Convention |
| Christian Cadet Conference | State League Convention |
| Youth Frontier YFA | Woman's Auxiliary Convention |
| Youth Frontier AFC | Woman's Auxiliary Convention |
| General Youth II | State Sunday School Convention |
| Ministers' Conference | N.C. Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association |
| Young Peoples Bible Conference | Carteret County Sunday School Convention |
| Woman's Auxiliary | Woman's Auxiliary Convention |

**. . . Inspiration, Instruction, & Recreation**

## 1988 CRAGMONT SCHEDULE

Please take note of some important changes in the 1988 summer schedule. Due to the late ending school year, the Ministers' Conference will be June 13-16, allowing General Youth Conference I to be held July 18-23. This could be confusing as General Youth Conference I will be following General Youth Conference II. Campers who want to return to the same camp week as last year need to be very careful to take note of this change. Below is a list of Cragmont conferences and the person to contact to register.

JUNE 13-16
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
Lyn Renfrow, Registrar
Route 1, Box 251-C
Kenly, NC 27542

JUNE 20-25
CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
Gary Bailey, Director/Registrar
Route 2, Box 489
Goldsboro, NC 27530

JUNE 27—JULY 2
YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA)
Scott and Janie Sowers
Directors/Registrars
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828

JULY 4-9
YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC)
Doug Skinner, Director/Registrar
Box 117
Arapahoe, NC 28510

JULY 11-16
GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE II
Chris Singleton, Registrar
Box 162
Beulaville, NC 28518

JULY 18-23
GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE I
Rick Watson, Registrar
Route 3, Box 142-AA
Kenly, NC 27542

JULY 25-30
YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE
James Gurganus,
Director/Registrar
Route 3, Box 64
Newport, NC 28570

AUGUST 1-6
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE I
Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

AUGUST 8-13
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE II
Mrs. Alice Barrow, Registrar
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

## The Cragmont Club

**WHAT IS THE CRAGMONT CLUB?**

- A group of interested and committed supporters of Cragmont Assembly.

**PURPOSE**

- To create a feeling of ownership at the church member level.
- To bring the outstanding debt on the main building to a swift retirement.
- To create a cash flow with regularity.

**BENEFITS**

- You will be a partner in the Cragmont ministry.
- Your family will receive certain cost reductions while visiting Cragmont.

**THE PLAN**

- $10.00/mo.—Free room and meals for immediate family for two days and nights/yr.

We do have a senior citizen plan. If interested, please let us know.

*Cost reductions may not be used by participants of regularly scheduled conferences.

**HOW DO I JOIN?**

- Please fill in the form below.
- Send your check to:
  Cragmont Assembly
  1233 North Fork Road
  Black Mountain, NC 28711
  Phone 704-669-7677

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Zip _____

Please Give Complete Address.

# AFC CONFERENCE




## July 4-9, 1988
## Ages 8-12
## Cost, $100

**REGISTRATION**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ PHONE _____

SEX _____ AGE _____ BIRTHDATE _____

Please send your request for registration to Doug Skinner, 804 East Cooper Street, Winterville, NC 28590; phone, 756-0520. Registrations are due by June 15.

# Announcing

YFAers will soon be traveling to Cragmont Assembly to attend the 1988 Youth Frontier Conference. Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week is unique because it is the only youth encampment at Cragmont planned for just teenagers. This encampment always proves to be a time of fun and fellowship, a time of soul-searching and inspiration. This year's encampment is scheduled for June 27—July 2.

To make sure that you are among those attending YFA Week, please mail the application below soon! (Mail no later than June 15; but do not wait, as you might be closed out if you do.) Send the application with a $30 registration fee. Letters explaining what you need to carry to camp will be sent when your registration fee is received.

Checks should be made payable to Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week.

*APPLICATION*

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

Send application to: Scott and Janie Sowers,
Directors
Route 1, Box 106-B
Farmville, NC 27828





Dr. James Coats, Dr. Alfred R. Wright, Dr. W. Burkette Raper

## DR. ALFRED R. WRIGHT ADDRESSES MOC GRADUATES

*by Kathy D. Bateman*

Director of Public Information
Mount Olive College

"Choose life" was the theme of Dr. Alfred R. Wright's commencement worship service address to the Mount Olive College class of 1988.

Wright, pastor of Adamsville Baptist Church in Goldsboro, quoted Deuteronomy 30:19, which says, "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."

"Just because you're breathing doesn't mean you're alive," said Wright. "You can be existing, but it's another thing to be alive."

Wright said there are three decisions that each person must make for himself. "You must decide on a **master,** you must decide on a **mate,** and you must decide on a **mission."**

He encouraged the 150 candidates for graduation to choose a master early in life. "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth . . . Enter the straight gate and the narrow way because that road leads to life. Choose life. You've got to decide if you want to live or just exist."

An ordained minister since 1954, Wright told those gathered in Rodgers Chapel that if we choose God, He becomes our most prized possession. "He is the greatest possession I have. If I gain the whole world and lose my soul, I'm a loser, but if I have nothing and have Jesus, I have everything and I gain everything . . . choose life!" he exclaimed.

Concerning the choice of a mate, Wright spoke of four emerging trends in society to guard against. The first is the trend toward an instant relationship or instant intimacy. The second is the trend to look out for number one. He encouraged the graduating class to also guard against disposable relationships where "we get what we want out of an individual or a relationship and then dispose of the individual as though the person doesn't matter." The fourth trend to guard against, "the most dangerous of all," says Wright, is the trend toward no moral absolutes. "Don't ever begin to lie. For every lie we live and every lie we utter, we have to utter another lie to cover up that lie. Live the truth . . . you'll never have to worry about who's going to find you or where they're going to find you if you live by truth."

Wright encouraged young people to wait on God. "Don't hit the panic button. God never mashes the panic button. If I ever knew that God in Heaven pushed the panic button, I'd worry. Don't throw your life away on impatience," he urged.

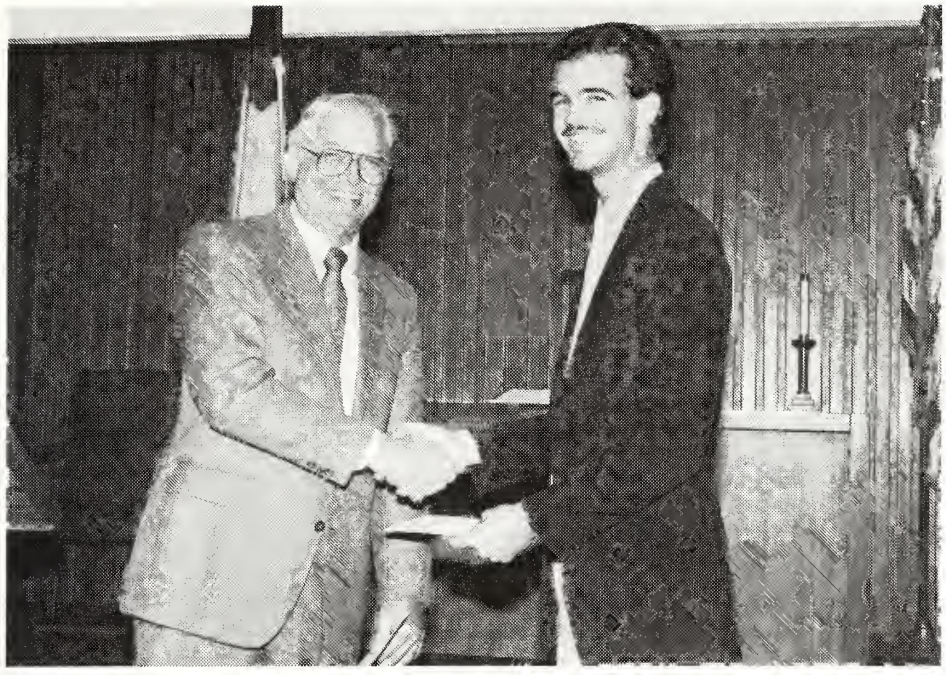
Wright added, "You've got to decide on that master and then allow that master to tell you about your mate. God will do that!

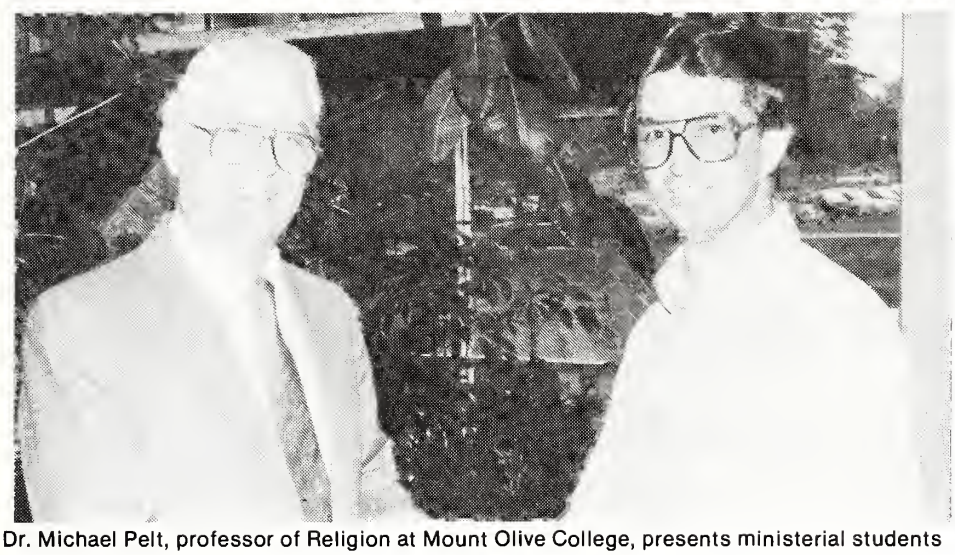
"Don't ever measure success by money," said the doctor of theology. "I don't know how you measure success, but I know how I measure success . . . and I'll tell you why I am a success. I know Jesus Christ. I know what He wants me to do, and I know where He wants me to serve. I am content with where I am and what God is doing in me."

Pastor Wright offered some final words of guidance to the graduating class. "Study to be quiet . . . this signifies contentment. Mind your own business. We're supposed to mind God's business, not each other's. Work with your own hands. Work and walk honestly. This means to lead an open life and be the kind of person God wants you to be. There's nothing wrong with ambition, but temper ambition with godliness and with wisdom. Be open. Never leave any regrets. Never live a lie, never tell a lie, and you'll never have to cover up a lie!

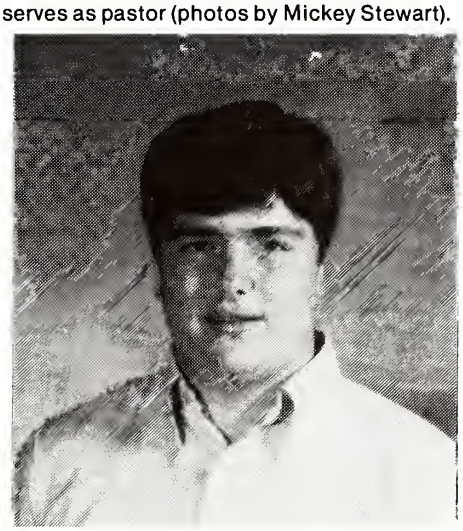
"Choose life. It begins with your master. Even at this very moment you can make that decision in your heart.

"Let Jesus be your master, and may God's very best be yours."

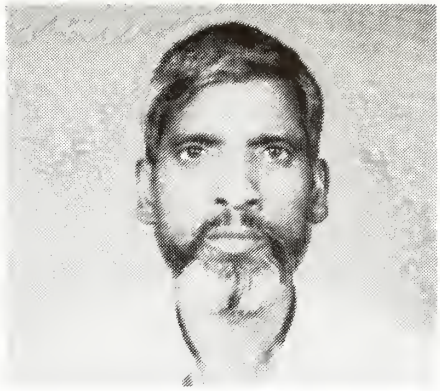




Dr. Michael Pelt, professor of Religion at Mount Olive College, presents ministerial students Carlton Bradshaw of Wilson, top, and Roger Keith Davis of Pink Hill, bottom, with scholarships endowed by the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association. The scholarships are presented annually to selected Free Will Baptist ministerial students. Bradshaw, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen R. Bradshaw, is a member of Rosebud Church in Wilson County. The Rev. Everett Harper is pastor. Davis, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Davis, is a member of Deep Run Church where the Rev. Adrian Grubbs serves as pastor (photos by Mickey Stewart).



Tim Jernigan of Dunn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Morton Jernigan, has been elected Student Government Association President at Mount Olive College for the 1988-89 academic year. The Jernigans are members of Shady Grove Church in Sampson County. Mr. and Mrs. Jernigan are both alumni of the College.



Yunas Masch

## TRIUMPHS IN TRIALS

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

The Free Will Baptist Church in India is a witnessing church, as evangelism is the life-breath of the church. It is, therefore, an eyesore to those who continue to create problems and are instrumental in the activities of the church. However, facing the difficult situations, we do not lag behind, realizing that God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind, as in 2 Timothy 1:7. The Bible says we shall reap if we faint not and do not doubt.

When the gospel is preached, the love of Jesus is manifested and His presence is felt, the result is that people will make decisions for conversion. But there are some people in our country who misinterpret it as forced conversion, or conversion by fraudulent means. We reiterate that we have never fallen into that sin. Conversion, in the Christian sense, the sense in which Jesus used the term (and we have used it), cannot be forced. Men are converted by the power and grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, after earnestly desiring to be saved through repentance and faith.

As a matter of fact our June evangelistic campaign boasted a well arranged follow-up program, which is most beneficial in saving lost souls. It was on March 22, 1988, that the Lord enabled us to baptize 24 men and women from among the Punjabis, who had migrated to our state of

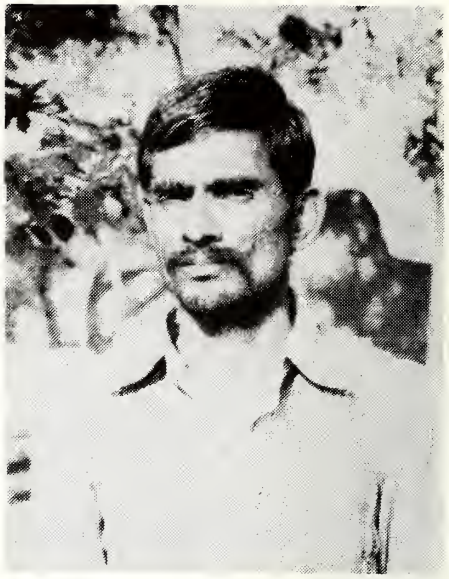
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U.P. and were rehabilitated by our state government and were provided farming land. The main profession of these people is cultivation and farming. I am glad to say that they are realistic in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. They have donated a good piece of land (about two acres) for the purpose of church and school in the time to come. There is no doubt that Lahia-Dhakia, their village, which is located about 155 miles from our church headquarters, is rather cut off from the main stream of the town or the city and is located in the extreme interior where there is no school within the radius of 5 miles. As we continue to work with this congregation, where we expect about 150 members soon, we will evaluate the need of a school and see what best can be done.

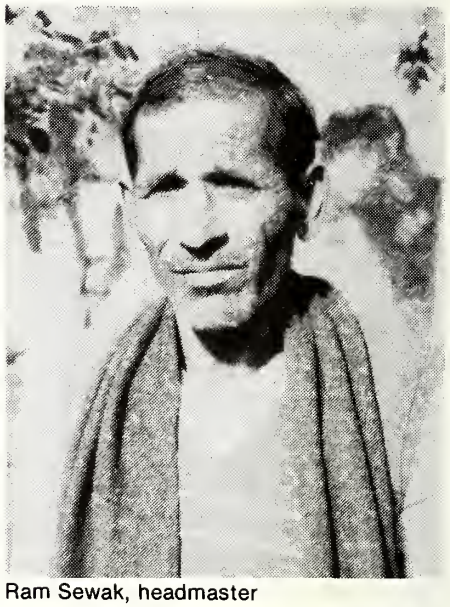
Deacon Sanjay Johnson is working among these people. And with a view to be more effective, a literate young man from among these converts, Yunas Masih, has been selected for Bible training under our care and thereafter his ordination as a deacon in that area. We request that these new believers be remembered in prayers.



Rajinder Prasad III, teacher



Prem Chand, teacher



Ram Sewak, headmaster

## HEDSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*by E. M. Lall*

As the time is passing away, the Lord Jesus Christ is using our church more effectively. While there is progress in the field of evangelism, there is increasing demand of more elementary schools in different places.

I have earlier emphasized in my letters and reports that in order to challenge the 80% population of our country which live in the rural villages, the medium of school is the best. When the school is established, we come closer to the masses and find avenues to challenge their hearts for their eternity.

The people living in the villages (which are far different than the villages in the United States), being illiterate, are highly rigid and orthodox in paganism and totally unwilling to stand by any teaching. It is therefore essential that we "mix up" with them through the school and exchange with them on matters of salvation, etc.

The Hedsa School was run by a Hindu institution which abandoned its support of payment to the three teachers employed in the school, besides other school



Hedsa School

expenses at the end of December, 1987. Having the opportunity, we took over the school as one of our institutions with the support of the local congregations and some funds sent by the Board for meeting the school need, from January, 1988.

There are 140 children in this school from first to fifth standard with four teachers. There is a small rented building being used for the school.

It is our hope that this school will be a pioneer institution in the area it is located and will open great opportunities for evangelism. Prayers are solicited.

## LESSONS ON THE ROAD

*by Fred Baker*

It was a clear Monday morning when the Rev. Pio Dela Rosa, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong, Elmer Garcellano and I turned our jeep onto the road leading to the southern half of the province of Palawan. The next six days were to be spent in mass evangelism meetings at six different outreaches in six different locations. The week had been carefully planned by the Evangelism Department of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines.

The Rev. Jaapal Ontong, assistant director of the Evangelism Department, had a very simple schedule. In the mornings, we would travel to the mission location. The afternoon would be spent in prayer, Bible study and visitation. A film showing and evangelistic message was the program for evenings. The film was entitled, "The Life of Christ."

Tuesday morning, while we were traveling to the second mission outreach location, the heat indicator revealed that the jeep was getting a little warm and probably a little thirsty. I pulled to the side of the road in a nice shady area. Pouring water into Willy's (that is the jeep's name) mouth, the radiator, I discovered that rust had eaten up the seal in his heart, the water pump. A little rust in the cooling system and it just keeps on growing and destroying. I thought, Now isn't that just like sin in our lives? If we leave sin unconfessed, it will just grow and destroy us. Wednesday morning Willy spent three hours in the doctor's office, commonly called here the repair shop, to repair his damaged heart. That is a long wait if you are impatient or have a long way to go. It is so wonderful that our God can take care of our heart problems in just a moment of honest confession. That is exactly what we wanted to tell all these people who do not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Thursday morning, as we pushed further into the south, Willy began to make funny sounding noises in his rear wheels. We were enjoying good fellowship in conversation as we rode and did not pay much attention. I don't think Willy liked being ignored. About two more miles and both back wheels locked up and began to slide. Needless to say, we stopped very quickly. In just a moment it was clear that the bearings on the rear axles had frozen up and refused to turn anymore. I began immediate surgery. We removed the rear drive shaft. Next, we removed both rear axles. It did not look good. The axles were rusty because there was water in the rear housing. I thought, Where did that water come from? Then I remembered all the rivers we had driven across in the past years. A little here and a little there and now we were stopped cold. You know sin in the life of we Christians is like that. Oil and water do not go together. Sin and holiness will not mix either. We Christians are powerless or inoperative when we pick up a little sin here and a little sin there and do not confess it to our Lord. That is exactly the other message we were trying to get across to the people. God is calling His children to repentance if they have sinned.

Willy needed the doctor again. On a model like Willy you can remove the axles but the wheels remain in place. Willy is a 4 x 4 and can use all four "feet" when in trouble. We were able to continue, after removing all the damaged parts in the rear, using his front wheels. We found the needed parts and the doctor did a good job.

We had a wonderful week together praying, teaching, learning, preaching and witnessing God's love and saving power in action. Each evening at each mission outreach location people came forward indicating that they wanted a living relationship with Jesus Christ. Some came to know Christ as Lord and Saviour for the first time. Others came as Christians confessing their known sins and asking God to forgive their sins and to heal their relationship with Christ as it should be. Everyone who responded was prayed with, given some literature and their names recorded so the mission outreach could follow them up with additional Bible studies and try to bring them within the church.

We praise the Lord for allowing us to be a part of this week and these people's lives. We praise the Lord for your prayers and support that made this week possible. Please join us in prayer for the mission outreaches responsible for following up these new people. Please join us in prayer for these new people that they may be rooted in God's Word and built up in the faith.

### REMEMBER SUMMER CAMP?

As summer approaches, the children at the Children's Home are looking forward to attending summer camp. Last year 22 of our children went to Cragmont. We

(Turn the Page)

anticipate at least 25 young people being eligible in 1988. The cost of sending a child to camp is approximately $100.

Going to Cragmont is a highlight in our children's summer. But, without your help, these children will not be able to attend.

Remember those special experiences you had at summer camp? Please consider making a contribution to the Summer Camp Fund and giving our children the opportunity to have an experience they will never forget.

**PUPPETS MINISTER AT CHILDREN'S HOME**





The youth of Kenly Church visited the campus of the Children's Home on March 20, 1988, and ministered to our children with puppets.

Shown is a radio announcer conducting a survey of the number of people who go to church. The results of his survey showed that few people in his town attend church, most are too busy.

The young people from Kenly also shared with singing and games that were enjoyed by all. They made an impression on us that we will never forget.

Our children invite you to hold your Sunday evening service in Memorial Chapel. If you would like more information, call 919/235-2161.

**NEWS FROM SILVER CREEK MISSION**

*submitted by Bill Futch*

March 3, 1988, was a very important date to the churches of the Beulaville area. The deacons and ministers of Beulaville, Bethlehem, Cabin, Lanier's Chapel, Mount Zion, and Sandy Plain Churches held a joint meeting along with representatives of the Home Missions Board to discuss adopting Silver Creek Mission and to get ready for the summer program of migrant labor ministry.

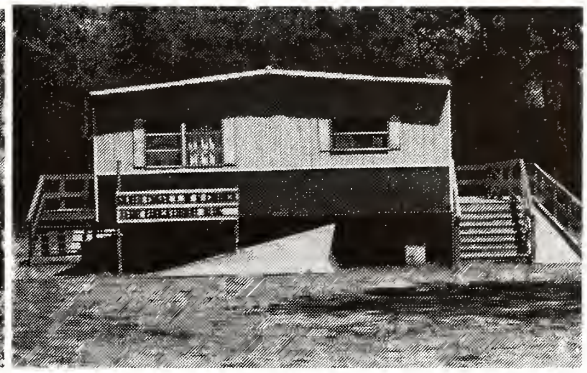
First, we discussed the ministry to the migrant workers. The Spanish Language Sunday School Class at Sandy Plain Church is in operation and ready to go. Handbills, in Spanish, giving directions to the church and inviting the workers to Sunday School will be made available to the other churches around Beulaville to distribute to the workers at their camps, plus the Home Missions Board will make available some Scripture portions in Spanish.

Second, we discussed the Silver Creek Mission at Cape Carteret. James Gurganus, the director-pastor of the Mission, gave a report and update on the progress the Mission has made. Originally, the Mission had been holding services in a converted gas station and the rent had been about $600 per month. Because the Mission is located on the Crystal Coast in a rapidly growing area, the price of land proved to be very high. However, one person working in a realty located a little over three acres of land beside the Silver Creek Golf Course at a reasonable price. The Mission bought the land and secured a double-wide mobile home to use as a temporary educational building. A friend of the Mission provided his heavy equipment to clear the land at a discount price and installed the septic tank, and the building









was moved to the site. Attendance at the Mission averages in the twenties. (A more recent report indicated that the Easter services had an attendance of forty-one.)

As the deacons and ministers heard the report of the Silver Creek Mission, they were challenged to ask their respective churches to adopt the Mission and become a Mother Church to it for a period of one year (to be renewed, if needed). In addition, each of the six churches of the Beulaville area is asked to attend the Mission in place of its evening worship services and worship with the Mission. At the time of this report, three churches have held their quarterly business meeting and voted to become a Mother Church to the Mission giving a monthly contribution and set up a time to go to the Mission. Those churches are Bethlehem, Mount Zion, and Sandy Plain Churches. The other three churches, Cabin, Beulaville and Lanier's Chapel, have not yet held their business meeting, but reports from some of the people involved indicate that these churches probably will do so.

The Rev. James Gurganus reported that many churches have helped the Mission with gifts of money or materials, such as Sound View Church, which has pledged its Wednesday night offering to the Mission. Additional needs and plans are:

1. Remember the Mission in prayer.
2. Install a parking lot (cost about $2,200).
3. Volunteers to help with some of the physical work needed at the site.
4. A dedication service to dedicate the new property.

If you wish to contact the Rev. James Gurganus about the Mission or about helping, his telephone number is (919) 223-5251.

**REGISTRATION TO BE HELD FOR SUMMER SESSION AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE**

There's still time to attend summer school at Mount Olive College. Classes are open for Session B, which begins June 27 and continues through July 29.

Registration will take place in Room 209 of the Henderson Building on the first day of class. The last day to add a class is June 29.

Classes will meet daily, Monday through Friday, for one-and-one-half hours, and students will have the opportunity to complete six semester hours during the B session.

Credits earned at Mount Olive's summer school may be transferred to other institutions.

For further information, contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919/658-2502).

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE TO ADD NEW ACADEMIC MAJORS**

Mount Olive College will be adding seven new majors beginning with the 1988-89 academic year. The new majors will include Accounting, Biology, Business Management, English, Fine Arts, History and Psychology.

The above majors are in addition to those majors already established which include Business Administration, Church Ministries, General Studies, Liberal Arts, Recreation and Religion.

The additional majors bring to thirteen the number of subject areas in which students can now earn baccalaureate degrees at Mount Olive College.

## PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS HELPS CHILDREN'S HOME



The Primary Sunday School Class of Reedy Branch Church are children with a special vision. They wanted to do their part for the children at the Children's Home.

The Primary Class took up a special offering and asked Mrs. Rebecca Davenport to present it to the Children's Home. Mrs. Davenport, president of the Board of Directors at the Home, is shown above presenting the offering to the Rev. Bobby Taylor, executive director.

Our children send a very special "Thank you!" to each member of the Primary Sunday School Class. Mrs. Trudy Hodges is their teacher.

**YOU ARE INVITED!**
**Coming Events at Mount Olive College**

**Spiritual Life Retreat** — **Saturday, June 11**
Begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day at Eagles Nest. Sponsored by State Layman's League Convention. All ministers and laypersons are cordially invited.

**Second Session of Summer School** — **June 27 – July 29**
For a course schedule and other information, contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919/658-2502).

**Ministers' Institute** — **Monday-Tuesday, August 8-9**
Begins Monday morning at 9:30 in the Henderson Building. Vernon Brady, vice president of Church Growth Institute, in Lynchburg, Virginia, will be the featured speaker. The Institute is sponsored jointly by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

**For More Information on These Events**
Contact Frank R. Harrison, Henderson Building, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive College, North Carolina 28365. Telephone (919) 658-2502.

## DRUGS: A DEADLY GAME

A major feature in the November, 1987, issue of *Reader's Digest* was "We're Teaching Our Kids to Use Drugs," by Peggy Mann. Mrs. Mann is a noted author who has addressed the subject of drug abuse among young people and has just published a booklet entitled *Mary Wanna.* Boy Scouts of America material is referred to in the booklet as recommended anti-drug literature.

Scouting has also been honored with the appointment by President Reagan of Chief Scout Executive Ben Love as a member of the White House Conference for a Drug-free America. Reports of successful experiences with "Drugs: A Deadly Game" materials keep coming in.

We are concerned about the effects of dangerous drugs, chiefly their effects on young people. We have a responsibility to our nation's youth and realize that we cannot sit idly by or lend mere passive support to the efforts of others. We must take the lead. This urgent message must be directed to young people everywhere. "Drugs: A Deadly Game" materials include:

**Booklet.** An 18-page booklet, *Drugs: A Deadly Game,* presents factual medical information in an easy-to-follow format, with the message that drugs are harmful to the body and mind. We recognize that peer pressure is a powerful influence in tempting young people. This book urges readers to stand up for their own convictions and say "No."

**Teacher's Guide.** A teacher's guide is available for use with the booklet. It contains a quiz which can be helpful when starting a peer-group program.

**Video.** The 16-minute video depicts role models saying "No"

(Continued on Page 32)







**THE SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION**

*by Ruth L. Warrick*

The State Woman's Auxiliary Convention was attended by 220 persons, May 13, at Winterville Church. There were twenty-five ministers, fifteen state officers and seven district presidents in attendance. Fourteen auxiliaries were recognized as having reached A-1 status.

The theme, "Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord," was enlarged upon by Joan Hooks in morning devotions, in greetings by the president, Sara Willoughby, and in the morning worship message, led by Kathy Pittman Hayes. The Francis Garner Family was an inspiration with their special music throughout the day.

On behalf of the Convention, Alice Barrow presented the Life Membership Award to Nina Grace Register of First Church, Kinston. Eunice Boykin gave an impressive memorial service.

Becky Jo Sumner "dished out" kitchen utensils from a basket to each elected officer in the Installation Service, giving them instructions for a comparable use in the Kingdom of God through the auxiliary.

The music for the day was under the direction of Leah McGlohon. She and the organist, Linda Weathersby, and pianist, Debbie Gray, were truly a blessing.

The fellowship of the day was a delight, enhanced by the surroundings of the beautiful new Winterville Church.

Jean Ackiss, vice president, prayed the closing prayer. The sixty-second session will be held at First Church, Kinston, May 11, 1989.

THE JOINT MEETING OF THE AYDEN SEMINARY-EUREKA COLLEGE ALUMNI AND THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY will be held Wednesday, June 22, in the Fellowship Hall of Ayden Church.

The program begins at 10 a.m., ends at 12 noon with lunch, and will feature "Cragmont Assembly—Its Origin and Early Beginnings." The Rev. James A. Evans, of Seven Springs, will be the speaker. Evans, a retired minister, was instrumental in helping Free Will Baptists acquire the Cragmont property.

(Turn the Page)

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All ministers, family members of the Ayden Seminary-Eureka College alumni and others interested in the history of Original Free Will Baptists are invited to attend. Ministers are asked to announce the meeting in their churches.

Catalogues, pictures and other items of historical interest relative to Ayden Seminary and Eureka College will be on display.

For further information, contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).



PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, Route 2, Pikeville, had a sunrise service presented by the youth of the church, followed by communion and then breakfast on Easter Sunday morning.

Even though the men were supposed to do the cooking, the majority of the work was performed by the ladies. However, there were some industrious gentlemen who performed their duties with joy, as evidenced by the picture of Edward Croom and Bill Lynch.

Have you ever seen anyone this jubilant over a bowl of scrambled eggs?

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, Route 2, Pikeville, celebrated Senior Citizen's Day on Sunday, April 24. The senior citizens were honored with gifts and lunch, following the worship service.



It has been said that preachers love to eat, and the Rev. Henry Armstrong, pastor of the church, is no exception. As is customary, he was trying to be first in line for the food. This is one day he is glad to be in the ranks of the senior citizens!

### MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Kenny Peele has announced that he is available for supply work. Mr. Peele can be reached at 737 Southview Circle, Fayetteville, NC 28311; or by phoning 488-3928.

### ANSWER TO CHILDREN'S CORNER PUZZLE

**SCRIPTURE CAKE**

½ cup butter
¾ cup sugar
2 cups plain flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
dash of salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon, ¼ teaspoon cloves, ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
3 eggs
½ cup buttermilk
⅓ cup honey
1 cup raisins
1 cup chopped dried figs
½ cup chopped almonds

### DRUGS: A DEADLY GAME

(Continued from Page 30)

to drugs and shows graphically what happens to the body when drugs are abused.

Schools, churches, and other community organizations can order the 18-page booklet, teacher's guide, and 16-minute video. Contact the Drug Abuse Task Force, S200, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079.

The tragedy of drug abuse must be met head on. Our youth are our most precious resource. We must convince them to just say "No" to drugs.

Reprinted from *BSA Today*.

### PREPARING YOUR ARTICLES

(Continued from Page 13)

12. Prepare your articles and reports as early in advance as possible so as not to delay their publication. It should be noted that all articles for publication should be in no later than thirty days in advance. For example, articles for publication in the July issue should be in the hands of the editor by June 1. (When the first is on Sunday, they should be in the hands of the editor on Monday.) It is most important that everyone observe this. Late copy delays the publication and causes problems on all fronts.

13. Remember that all items to be published should be submitted in typed form. Items should not be phoned in.

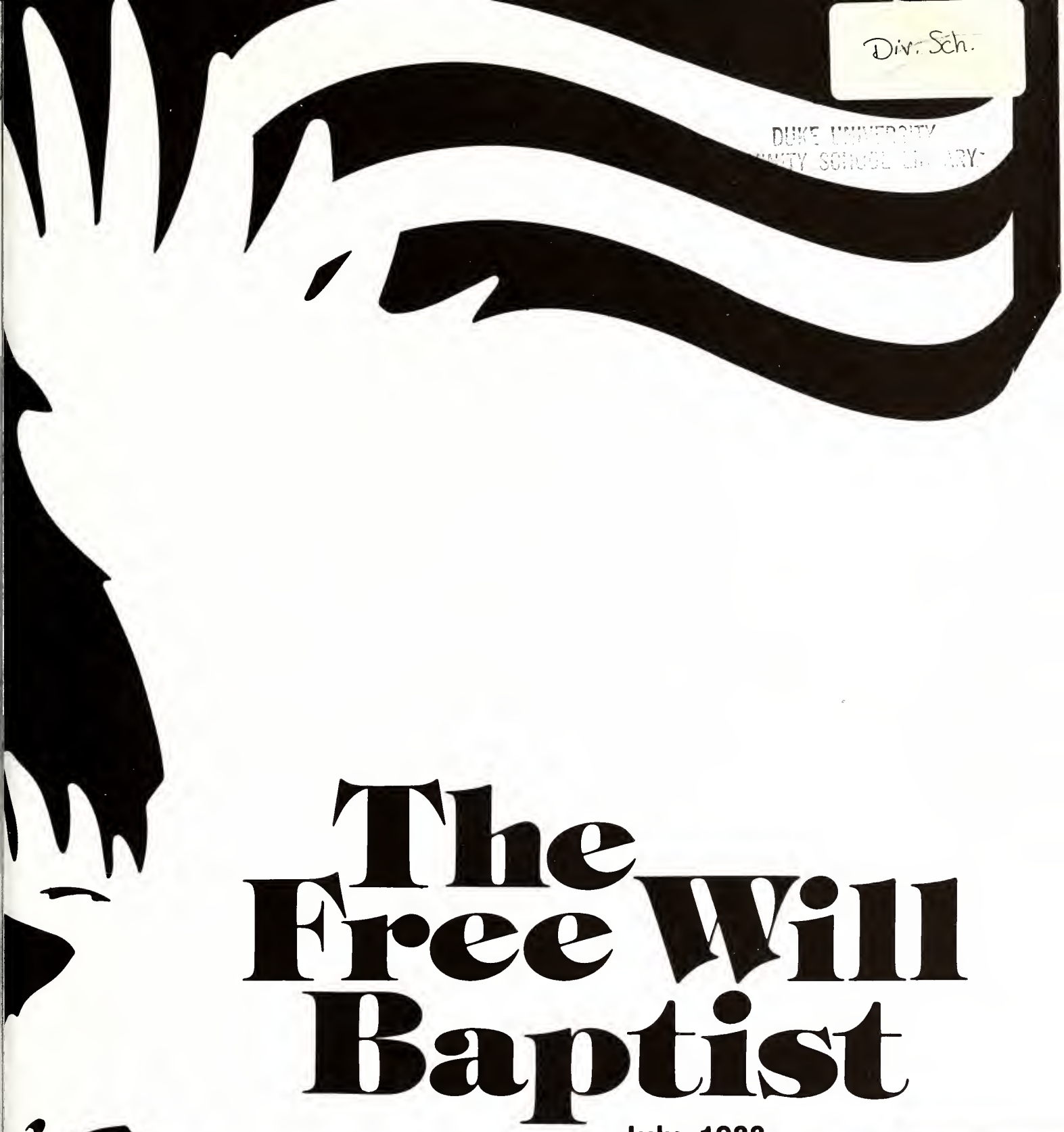
14. Churches and pastors wishing to announce their availability should note that this information is run as space permits. It should also be noted that there is absolutely no way anyone but the minister himself can relate his availability. (In the past, churches have tried to make such an announcement for their pastors. You can imagine the problems this causes!)

15. It should always be remembered that the editor makes the final decision as to whether or not something is deemed worthy of printing.

16. Send articles to the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

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# The Free Will Baptist

July, 1988

# Beyond the Realm of Autobiography

Almost under her breath she added, ". . . but not my son." So ended the blessed saint's petition that the Lord would send forth laborers.

You and I shudder at the thought. We wonder if any God-fearing, devoted Christian would tag on such as a postscript to a prayer. Of course they would. You and I do it often. (But that doesn't make it right!) Let's think about this.

Some time this week, you and I will overeat. In fact, we probably will overeat at least once daily. Someone with whom we will dine may jokingly speak of our overindulgence and make references to starving children in Ethiopia. In response, we will laugh and say the food would spoil before it got there. Yes, it would; but the money used to buy that food would not.

At least once daily we stand in front of our closets and try to decide what to wear. Our problem does not stem from a lack of clothes; it is because we have more than we need. In fact, many folks have some clothes they never wear all year long. Strange, though, local Salvation Army units could not meet the needs of people when it was cold a few months back.

We get in our cars and look at the odometers. We gasp because there are so many miles. Even though there is absolutely nothing wrong, we are sure the latest model from Detroit is just what we need. So off we go to buy a new vehicle. True, new cars are nice. But this whole scenario is just classic of the great American mindset and lifestyle. We feel we have to have everything . . . and the "newest" of it! (A young friend of mine commented recently that if God were serious few Americans would make it to Heaven.)

Possessing things has become our number one priority.

We sit in church and hear that we should witness. But we tell ourselves everyone already knows about God and His love. The eternal damnation of many people is the direct result of our assumptions and apathy. We are not interested in our churches growing because there might be "undesirables" who wish to join our congregation. Well, excuse me! Will someone please define the term *undesirable* when used thus. Then, will you show me a biblical excuse for not loving as God loves? The only greatness any of us has is from God and because of what He has allowed us to become.

We sit in our safe little sanctuaries and pat ourselves on the back. "What a good job we are doing," we say, while many the world over need so much. And sometimes we acknowledge that needs do exist. *But,* we would really rather someone else meet those needs.

We don't want to give, 'cause *we* could surely use that money for something else.

We don't want to work, 'cause *we* might get our hands dirty.

We don't want to change bandages for those who are afflicted, 'cause it might make *us* feel a bit uncomfortable.

We don't want to say anything, 'cause *we* might get embarrassed.

"Well, Lord, there are many who have needs . . . but don't send my son . . . ."

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

July, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 7

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Editorial |
| 4 | Amos in America |
| 8 | If the Foundation Be Destroyed |
| 10 | His Call to Stewardship |
| 12 | The Christian Teacher |
| 15 | For Parents and Other Human Beings |
| 17 | Youth Focus |
| 19 | Children's Corner |
| 20 | Ministries Update |
| 32 | News Briefs |

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

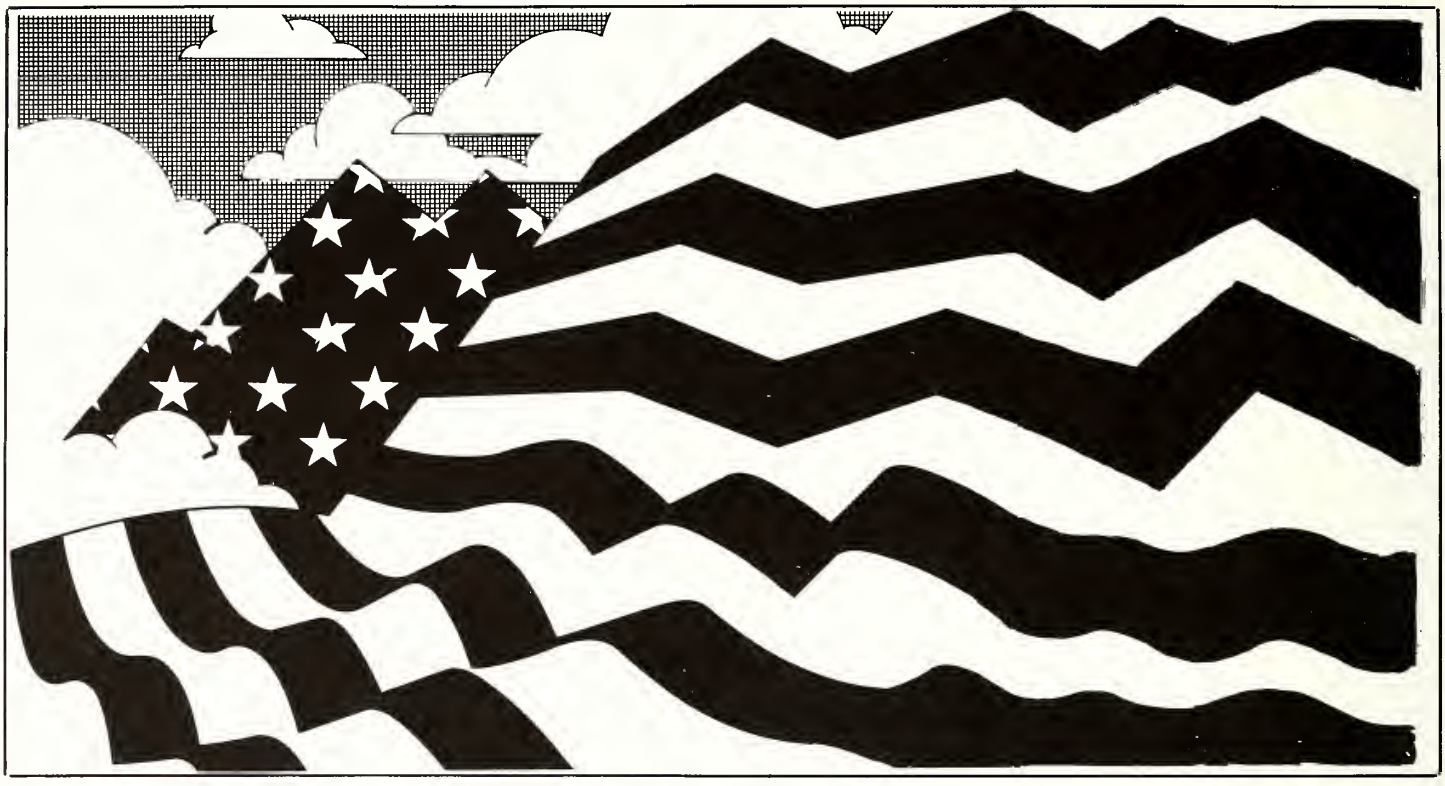
**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

The month of July evokes patriotic feelings. The following article is excerpted from Henry R. Mahler Jr.'s contemporary version of the Book of Amos. May we prayerfully consider his writing.



# Amos in America

*What the crusty prophet might say—today—to us*

*by Henry R. Mahler Jr.*

The words of Amos, a humble laborer from Tarkio, which came to him in the days of the 40th president of the United States:

"The Lord roars from New York
and thunders from Washington,
the pastures are scorched by drought
and the smokestacks of Gary are
cold and dead."

The Eternal declares:

"For three transgressions of the Soviet Union.
and for four,
I will not rescind the punishment—
for she has ground under her tank treads
the countries of Czechoslovakia, Hungary
and Afghanistan;
she has disregarded the human rights
of her own people
and those of her satellite nations;
so shall Moscow feel the edge of my wrath.
and Leningrad and Gorky the smoke of my
displeasure."

The Eternal declares:

"For three transgressions of Iran
and for four.
I will not rescind the punishment—
for she has used the pretext of religion
for killings and oppression.
has encouraged hijacking and prosecuted war
against a brother nation.
Therefore she shall be overrun
by her enemies
and the smoke of her consuming
shall travel down the wind.
"For three transgressions of South Africa.
and for four.
I will not rescind the punishment;
for she has elevated apartheid
to an article of faith,
and set people against people
in her own country;

therefore she shall be a pariah among nations
and perish in a sea of racist blood."

The Eternal declares:
"For three transgressions of the United States,
and for four,
I will not rescind the punishment;
because she allows the innocent
and powerless
to be impoverished for the benefit of the rich
and tramples on the heads of ordinary
people
and pushes the humble out of the way.
Fathers and sons resort to the same girl
and incest flourishes to the profanation
of my holy name.
They offer gifts in the Lord's house
that have come from exploitation
of those at poverty level.
and in fat contentedness worship God
with alcohol breath.
Yet it was I who cleared the obstacles
in your path.
the tall cedars and sturdy oaks,
the fruit above and the roots below,
who helped you master the wilderness
and take possession of the land
from shore to shore.
I raised up spiritual leaders from your children,
and models of sobriety from your youth.
And yet you pressured teetotalers to drink
and said to the prophets, 'You shall not prophesy.'
See, then, how I will crush you to the earth
as a bulldozer pushes and compacts the soil—
and flight shall not save the swift,
nor strength the mighty and powerful;
the armed services cannot save themselves,
nor athletes, whatever their skills,
nor racing drivers or jet pilots
be swift enough to escape;
for on that day the bravest and the fleetest
shall be stripped of their powers
and shall fade away.
This is the very word of the Eternal."

Listen, Americans, to the words the Eternal addresses to you, to a nation highly favored:
"You among nations on earth I have
specially blessed;
therefore your responsibility is greater
and I will visit you with punishment
for your iniquities."
Stand before the banks in Zurich,
and the financial establishments of London,
assemble in the dark recesses of Wall Street,
ferret out the haunts of the mafia,
and sense the tumult seething
beneath the surface
because of money-related injustices, and say:
"What do they care for honesty
when there are profits from deceit,
crime and violence?"
These are the words of the Eternal God:
"Enemies surround you on every hand,
your strongholds shall be broken open
and your mansions looted."

These are the words of the Eternal:
"On the day that I deal with America
for all her crimes
I will most surely deal with the churches,
where the altars and the pulpits
shall be demolished by catastrophes,
and the city house and the vacation homes
with their luxurious appointments
shall fall to the ground.
I will bring destruction upon you
like Sodom and Gomorrah blazing,
and you will be like a branch
plucked from the burning,
yet you do not come back to me.
This is the very word of the Eternal.

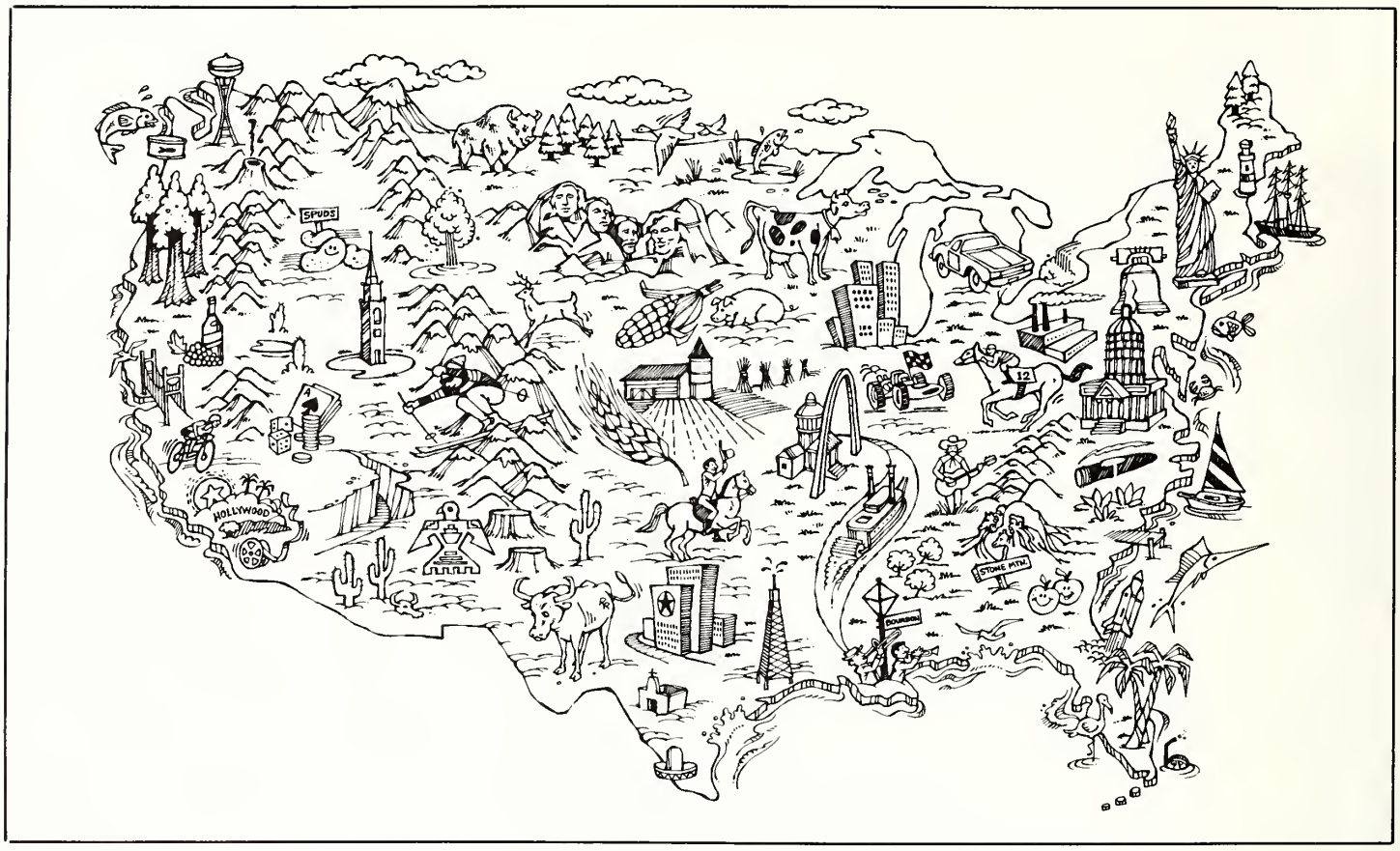
"Therefore, America, this is what
I will do to you,
and because to you I will do this,
prepare to meet your God, America!"

It is he who formed the mountains,
made the wind
and reveals his thoughts to man;
who clouds the light of morning,
who treads the summit of the world,
Almighty God Eternal is his name.

Listen, to the words of this dirge, O America,
who will fall to rise no more;
O virgin America,
prostrate on her own soil, with none to lift her up!
These are the words of the Eternal God:
"The cities that suffer the ravages of war
shall have a hundred left out of each thousand,
and ten out of a hundred of the people
of America."

These are the words of the Eternal
to the people of America:
"Come to me if you would live—
not to Riverside Church in New York,
nor to Bruton Parish in Williamsburg,

(Turn the Page)




nor to Thomas Road in Lynchburg,
nor to Coral Ridge in Fort Lauderdale,
nor to San Juan Capistrano,
nor to the Crystal Cathedral in Los Angeles.
These places shall be swept away
and brought to nothing."
If you would live, turn to the Eternal
or the Eternal will consume all fifty states
like a fire,
a conflagration that will devour America
and there will be no fire department
to quench it.

Trouble will come to those who pervert
justice into bitterness,
trampling integrity to the ground,
and hate the one dispensing justice,
and abhor the one who speaks with honesty.
Well, then, since you trample
the feeble in the dust
and extort taxes from their scant livelihood
in order to erect marble buildings—
you shall not inhabit them.
For I know your manifold crimes
and puissant sins,
who browbeat the righteous, take bribes,
and deprive the poor of justice in the courts
while those who are prudent do not speak out
because the times are evil.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live;
then the Eternal, God Almighty,
may really be with you—
as you claim to be the case.
Hate evil and love good,
maintain justice in the courts
and it may be that the Eternal,
the God Almighty,
will be gracious to a remnant of America.

Fools, who expect the Eternal to succor,
what will the day of the Eternal mean to you?
It will mean darkness, not light;
a day of gloom, not brightness.

"I hate, I despise your Christmas
and Easter celebrations,
and take no delight in your solemn
morning worship.
Even though you tithe
and give large memorial gifts
I will not approve them.
Take away from me your hymns and anthems
and the sonorous tones of your organ—
I will not listen;
but let justice in the laws and courts
cascade like waters,
and a will for right living
like an everflowing stream.



"Did you bring me tithes and gifts, you people of America, who overcame the wilderness and won the West? Now you shall take up your idols, the TV and computer, and shoulder them into exile." So says the Eternal, whose name is God Almighty.

Woe to those who lie on waterbeds
and stretch themselves
on innerspring mattresses,
who eat hickory-smoked steaks
broiled over charcoal,
and smack their lips
over expensive veal chops;
who hum along with popular tunes
on their hi-fi stereos,
and gulp cocktails and drink wine
from Waterford goblets,
and anoint themselves with cosmetics
from Prince Matchabelli
and Charles of the Ritz,
and are not grieved over the moral decay
of America!
Therefore they shall fall victim to their enemies
and all their revelry will be gone with the wind."

God Eternal has sworn by himself:
"I loathe the arrogance of America,
I detest its factories and skyscrapers,
I will abandon the cities and all they contain."

Do sports cars race over boulders
or tractors plow the sea?
Yet you have poisoned the system of justice
and perverted right into wrong,
you who boast about nothing
and brag about the horns of your power.
"O America, I am raising a nation against you
and they shall harry your land
from Cumberland Gap to the Grand Canyon."
This is the very word of the Eternal,
God Almighty.

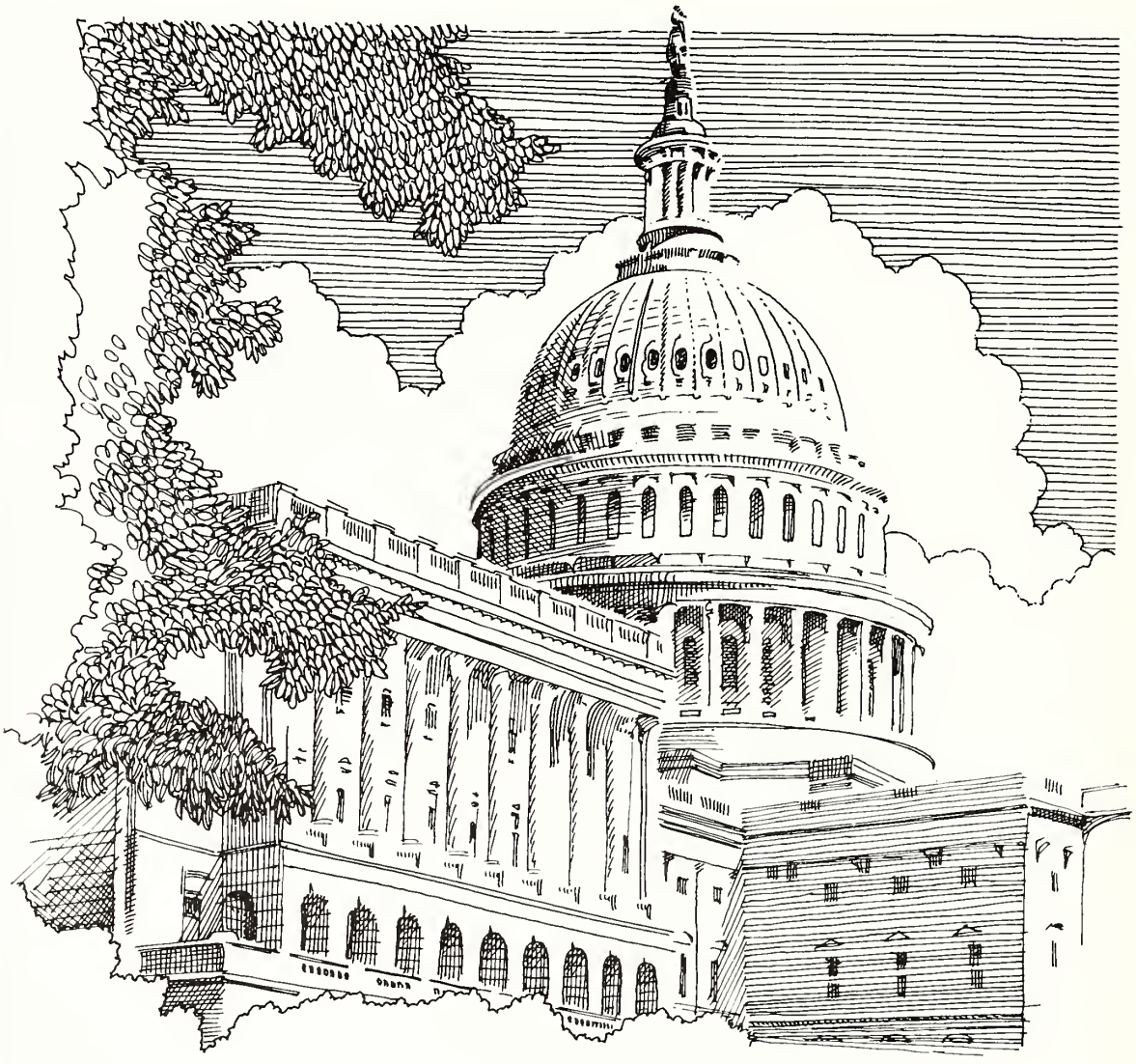
Listen to this, you who trample the needy
and plunder the poor of the country,
you who are impatient with Sundays
and holidays
because they interfere with buying and selling—
overcharging; quality down, prices up;
increasing the interest on credit to consumers.
inflating car loans and mortgages,
making destitute the weak and improvident,
lobbying for taxes that bear hardest
on the poorest,
and not even leaving them the price
of a pair of shoes.
The Eternal, the asserted God of America, has
sworn,
"I will never forget your evil deeds."

"The time is coming," says Eternal God,
"when I will send famine on the land,
people will be hungry, but not for food;
they will be thirsty, but not for water,
but for hearing of the word of the Eternal.
They shall stagger from the Atlantic
to the Pacific,
from the Rio Grande to the St. Lawrence,
seeking the word of the Eternal,
but will not find it.

"Yet I will not destroy America completely.
I will shake it like pebbles in a sieve
and a remnant shall survive.
All shall die who say, 'God will not
let any harm come near us
because the United States is a godly nation.'
Someday I will restore this country
and rebuild the gaping walls of its churches
and make it a blessing to other nations of earth."

"A time is coming," says the Eternal,
"when the harvest will come
on the heels of the plowing,
and the crushing of the grapes
soon after planting,
and the mountains will run with fresh wine
and all the hills ripple with waves of grain.

I will restore the fortunes of America
and their deserted cities shall fill
with people,
the crops and gardens and orchards
shall flourish,
they shall be planted in their own native land
and never again be uprooted,"
says the Eternal, your God.



# IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED

*by Ray Allen*
Editor of *Washington Report*

**A society rests upon the bedrock of its philosophical presuppositions. Those basic truths, commonly held by the people to be self evident, powerfully shape every aspect of that society's culture:**

its art, music, literature, science, law and government.

If men believe the earth flat, they will not explore the ocean's extremities for fear of falling off the edge. If men believe their God demands human sacrifice, the powerless will not be safe. If a nation of men believes in moral absolutes derived from God, those absolutes will be reflected in that nation's laws and government. And, if that nation ceases to believe in those moral absolutes, its law base and government will likewise shift to accommodate the new orthodoxy—law according to opinions of the strongest man or faction.

Commonly held values, especially if they are true, are the glue which holds a society together. Destroy that glue and society will dissolve into chaos and factionalism. That is what historians mean when they say the Roman Empire "rotted from within" nearly twenty centuries ago.

Something like this was in the mind of the Psalmist when he asked: "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3).

The destruction of a nation's foundational values renders that people helpless to ward off societal disintegration even if those people are relatively good individually. Without consensus based in values there is no voluntary union; and without union, there can be no cohesive social structure.

That is where I believe America stands today. We are perched on the edge of chaos because we have abandoned the basic values (derived largely from the Jewish and Christian Scriptures) which moved individual Americans to implement a unified vision consisting of "liberty and justice for all."

Values common in "the good old days"? How about these forgotten foundation stones which were so common as to have become either cliches or classics of American speech.

*Frugality*—"A penny saved is a penny earned."
*Debt:* "The borrower is beholden to the lender."
*Work:* "If a man won't work, don't let him eat."
*Honesty:* "A man's word is his bond."
*Loyalty:* "Don't bite the hand that feeds you."
*Character:* "A man is what a man does."
*Life:* "God who gave us life, gave us liberty."
*Liberty:* "Give me liberty or give me death."
*Security:* "Shall we secure liberty at the price of chains and slavery? God forbid."
*Moral absolutes:* "The laws of nature and of nature's God . . . ."
*Generosity:* "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free . . . ."
*Compassion:* "There, but for the grace of God, go I."
*Love:* "Love your neighbor as yourself."
*Family:* "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."
*Private property:* "A man's home is his castle."

Sadly, these commonly held foundational beliefs of American life and culture are seriously threatened by alien philosophical systems—particularly Karl Marx's atheist socialist world view. It proposes that debt is necessary to achieve prosperity. It calls for total civil government, to the detriment of individual freedoms. The truth is defined as whatever must be said in order to advance socialism. Defining and shaping moral absolutes, family, and compassion is the exclusive prerogative of the all encompassing state; and, the inviolable sanctity of human life is jettisoned in favor of a philosophy which says those who contribute most toward the aims of the state are most valuable. Those who disrupt, dissent or cause inconvenience are expendable. Human life is not sacred. The absolute power of the state is sacred.

Of course Marx's socialism promises security unavailable in a free market society. Work, for example, is always available, though sometimes it can be found only in the Gulags, of Siberia—the slave labor camps of the U.S.S.R.

Hopefully, before we create our own American Gulags, we will recover our nation's formative vision; then, reverse our nation's dangerous plunge toward chaos and dissolution. To do that will require us to begin working once again on our foundations, our philosophical presuppositions about what constitutes "truth, justice, and the American way."

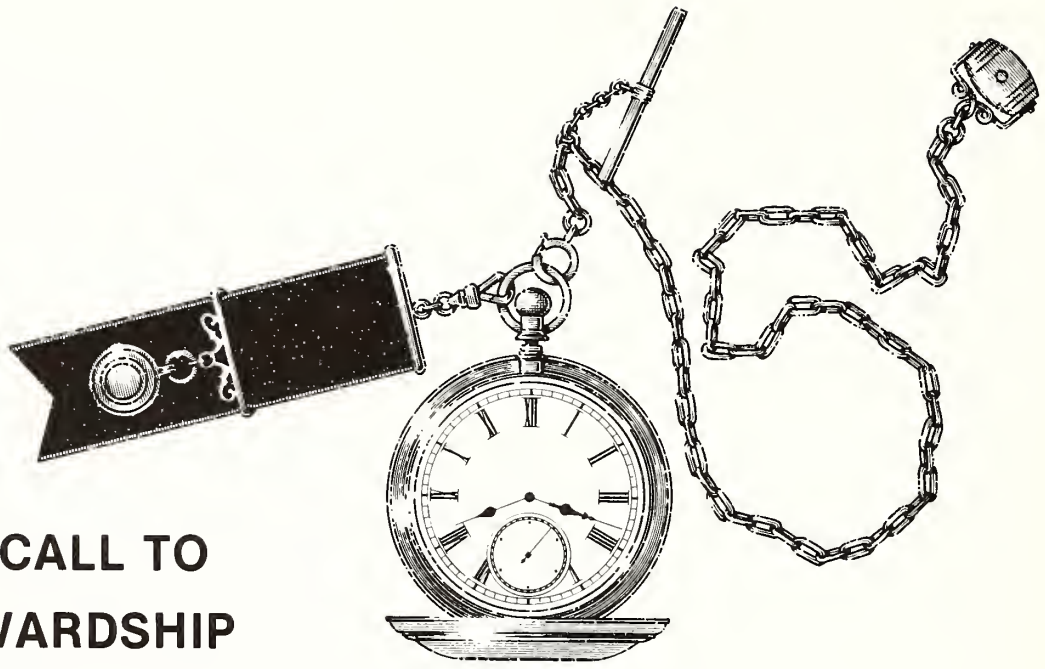
To launch America into a productive and prosperous 21st century requires that we first rebuild our shared system of Judeo-Christian foundational values by articulating them with clarity, living them in purity and demonstrating them with the power of faithful servanthood under God. "One nation, under God," says it well.

Isaiah foretold a time when God's people will cause such a nation to rise from the ashes of apparent destruction:

"They will rebuild the ancient ruins, and restore the places long devastated; They will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations," (Isaiah 61:4).

May God fulfill this promise in us and through us.

Reprinted from *The General Baptist Messenger*, May, 1988.



# HIS CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

*by the Rev. De Wayne Eakes*

The theme for the 1987-88 Convention Year is "Opportunities for Service." The call from God to "ministry" is a "call to serve." As we experience the call to minister in building the Kingdom of God on earth, we are called to accept the responsibility of "preparing to serve." Having affirmatively responded to the call to serve and having made preparations for service, we then become amazed at the many "opportunities for service" which God extends to challenge us.

The life of the person whom God has called and who is responding to God's call is a life of discipleship. A large part of our discipleship as Christian servants of the Master is stewardship. *The call to Christian discipleship is a call to serious stewardship.* In John 15:1-8, Jesus' "I am and you are" statement tells us He is the "true vine" and we are the "branches." The purpose of planting, cultivating and pruning grapevines is so that the branches will produce fruit (grapes). He is the "true vine," we are the "branches" and we are called to Him in order to bear fruit for "the Kingdom."

Our responsibility for serving can be measured by the opportunities God presents to us. The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has a commendable record of service and availing itself of the opportunities God presents. It seems that today there are ever broadening vistas of service opening up on every hand.

*Foreign Mission's* field of service is constantly growing. The work in Mexico is at its strongest point. The Original Free Will Baptist Church there is solid and growing. The work in India is trying to grow into a bold, new and much needed venture, the Philippines work continues to grow and reach more people. Our work in Eastern Europe is making a difference for Christ in people's lives.

The *Home Missions Programs* are advancing at a good rate. Solid progress is being experienced in several of our home mission churches. The Deaf Church Ministry is firmly established and is now branching out into other areas. The annual Camp for the Deaf/Hearing Impaired at Eagle's Nest continues to be a big success. The work with displaced persons from Southeast Asia continues to grow. The migrant ministries program is doubling this year.

Our *Children's Home Ministry* is growing in its effectiveness and quality of child care. The beginning of the Whitley Activity Center is a very positive and much needed step forward. Our ministry there is having a marked positive influence in the lives of young boys and girls.

The *Retirement Homes,* our newest ministry program, is operating at near maximum capacity. The need is ever-increasing. The elderly (65 or over) constitute 10% of the North Carolina population. By the year 2010, that is projected to increase to 15%. We are right on target with this ministry. There is a constant searching to match resources with needs.

Four-year accreditation for *Mount Olive College* has greatly increased the numbers of both Original Free Will Baptists and others to whom we minister both on and off campus. (i.e. the hundreds who enroll in religion and other courses on Seymour Johnson Air

Force Base). The recent addition of a person to directly supervise the work of religion majors and coordinate this program with the conferences is a major advance. Our college is constantly seeking ways to serve the church more effectively and efficiently.

*The Ministers' Program,* formerly Superannuation, is re-evaluating and seeking to improve its services. The Minister's Widow's Fund, Ministers' Retirement Program, Life Insurance Program, Emergency Aid Fund and Educational Loan Fund are designed for the minister's benefit. It is entirely appropriate to have a responsible program giving care to the "care-givers"—the leadership of our churches and ministry programs.

*Cragmont Assembly,* "the people place," is constantly expanding its ministry as new programs are added. Last year a new conference for high school grades and college students was very successful. This year a new women's mini-conference is being added. This is in addition to the on-going annual conferences. Currently the Board is negotiating the purchase of property across from the main building for camping during the spring, summer and fall, yet another dimension of ministry.

Printing, publications and literature are needs common to all our ministries. Our oldest ministry program, the *Free Will Baptist Press* and its four bookstores, seek to meet those needs. Much of our denomination's printed material is produced here. Convention, conferences and auxiliary program books, the annual *Yearbook,* and *The Free Will Baptist,* as well as many church supplies, are a part of this ministry.

*Church Finance Association* is unique in that its purpose for being is to aid churches and ministry programs in their growth and development by providing financial assistance in the form of loans. This money comes from donations and money invested by individuals, groups, churches or ministry programs. They seem to always have more applications than funds available. A good place to invest, draw interest on the investment and help other churches and ministry programs would be the Church Finance Association.

Your *State Convention,* through its Headquarters Facilities at Ayden (leased from the Free Will Baptist Press), the annual Convention and the elected executive committee seeks to coordinate, unify and promote the work of all our member churches, conferences and ministry programs. We seek to be sensitive to responsible stewardship concerns.

In addition to these we have the fine quality of work being done by various auxiliary organizations of our denomination. *The Woman's Auxiliary* and the *State Sunday School Convention* are the two best known of our auxiliary programs. They do an excellent job in their respective fields. *The State League Convention,* not as large as in years gone by, is still strong in some areas and churches, providing valuable leadership training for youth. *The Minister's Association,* while claiming about one-third of our ministers as members, is a strong, unifying fellowship, inspirational and continuing teaching ministry for our ministers. All of the above mentioned auxiliaries sponsor one or more weeks of camping for adults and/or youth at Cragmont.

*The Layman's League* is the newest organized auxiliary arm of our Convention. This convention has some strong leadership seeking to increase and coordinate the men's work on conference and state levels. This work is taking progressive steps in the right direction. It sponsors an annual gospel sing at Eagle's Nest as well as an annual Layman's Spiritual Life Retreat.

The Eastern Conference owns and operates *Camp Vandemere* on the Pamlico River. The board of directors has recently been expanded to include a representative from the six other conferences.

All of these opportunities for service constitutes the measure of our responsibility as a denomination, as conferences, local churches and individuals who are "the church." God has set a great privilege, tremendous opportunities, and challenging tasks before us as an arm of His church. What are we as a denomination, as conferences, as local churches and as individual Original Free Will Baptists going to do with the opportunities of service He has presented?

The life of the person whom God has called and who is responding to God's call is a life of discipleship. *The call to Christian discipleship is a call to serious stewardship.*

Mr. Eakes serves as President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.





# SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKSHOPS OFFERED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

**Introduction**

One of the best ways to improve any Sunday School is to provide training opportunities for your officers and teachers. Your Sunday School Convention has many programs and resource persons to help you.

In this article you will find a list and description of workshops offered by your North Carolina State Sunday School Convention. They can be scheduled in your church.

Please note that some of the workshops are for leaders in the Sunday School (superintendents, secretaries, Sunday School council and Christian education board members, pastors, etc.). Others are for teachers.

At the end of the article you will find a form for getting more information on these workshops and for scheduling one or more of them in your church.

The cost for each workshop is $3 per participant.

**For Leaders**

COMPANY'S COMING! (2 Hours)— Is your Sunday School ready for visitors? This workshop will show you practical ways to welcome and follow-up on visitors, who are a great source for new members.

DID YOU MISS ME? (1 Hour)— Here's a very simple and effective program to help your classes let absentees know that they are missed.

HELP! I HAVE TO GIVE A DEVOTION (2 Hours)—One of the duties of the superintendent is to give devotions. This workshop deals with how to prepare and present meaningful devotions.

HOW TO GET SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS (2 Hours)—This workshop will help you in identifying and recruiting persons to teach in Sunday School.

HOW TO KEEP SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS (2 Hours)— Once you have enlisted teachers, what can you do to keep them? This workshop presents some practical ways to support and care for teachers.

HOW TO PLAN AND LEAD MEETINGS (1 Hour)—A vital skill for leaders in the Sunday School is the art of planning and leading meetings. This workshop will show you how.

HOW TO START NEW CLASSES (1 Hour)—Growing Sunday Schools are ones that regularly begin new classes, especially for adults. Here's a very simple and successful way to do it.

HOW TO START/REVIVE A SUNDAY SCHOOL COUNCIL (2 Hours)—A good Sunday School Council is essential for a healthy and growing Sunday School. This workshop explores what it is, why it is, its duties, and how to create one.

IMPROVING YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY (2 Hours)—Could your Sunday School stand some new life and enthusiasm? This workshop will share proven ideas for doing just that!

KEEPING AND USING RECORDS AND STATISTICS (2 Hours)—This workshop will show you ways to keep and use your attendance records to identify the strengths and weaknesses of your Sunday School and to move it forward.

LOOK FOR THE GOOD! (1 Hour)—This is a practical one month Sunday School Promotion Campaign that will bring new life and attention to your Sunday School.

PROMOTING YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL (1 Hour)—Here are some practical ways to keep your whole church informed and enthused about your Sunday School.

RESOURCES FOR IMPROVING YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL (1 Hour)—What are some of the best books, magazines, filmstrips, videos, etc. available today on the Sunday School? This workshop will tell you and actually display many of these resources, as well as assist you in where to obtain them.

SOLVING PROBLEMS IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL (2 Hours)—Here's a simple and effective method for dealing with the problems that arise in Sunday School. The method is presented and explained. Participants share some problems and the method is applied to them.



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL THAT CARES (2 Hours)—Growing Sunday Schools are caring Sunday Schools! This workshop explores ways that any Sunday School can grow in caring for persons.

THE SUPER SUPERINTENDENT (2 Hours)—This workshop concerns the kinds of skills and abilities a superintendent needs to be a "Super Superintendent."

TRAINING TEACHERS (2 Hours)—This workshop sets forth the areas in which teachers need training and suggests practical programs and resources for training them.

USING ELECTIVES IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL (2 Hours)—What is an elective? Why bother with them? How to choose them? Where to get them? Actual electives are displayed.

WELL DONE, THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL ATTENDER! (1 Hour)—This is a very successful attendance promotion program. Every Sunday School that's used it has seen great results!

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? (2 Hours)—What are the responsibilities of the superintendent? These are identified, along with practical suggestions on how superintendents can equip themselves to fulfill them.

**For Teachers**

CREATIVE TEACHING TECHNIQUES WITH CHILDREN (2 HOURS)—Practical ideas and resources for teaching children (nursery-6th grade).

(Turn the Page)

CREATIVE TEACHING TECHNIQUES WITH YOUTH (2 Hours)—Practical ideas and resources for teaching teens (7th-12th graders).

CREATIVE TEACHING TECHNIQUES WITH ADULTS (2 Hours)—Practical ideas and resources for teaching adults (college-older adults).

DISCIPLINE IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS (2 Hours)—What it is and how to do it. It's for teachers of children.

GETTING YOUR CLASS INVOLVED IN THE LESSON (2 Hours)—Practical ways to deal with this common problem. It's aimed primarily at teachers of teens and adults.

HOW OUR BIBLE CAME TO US (3 Hours)—This workshop uses an excellent series of filmstrips on how our Bible came to be. It will increase your love for and understanding of God's Word.

LORD, TEACH US TO TEACH! (1 Hour)—This workshop leads teachers to examine and learn from the teaching ministry of Jesus.

MEANINGFUL BIBLE STUDY FOR TEACHERS (2 Hours)—Resources and methods for studying the Bible.

OVERCOMING THAT INADEQUATE FEELING (1 Hour)—How teachers can deal with a sense of inadequacy and actually use it to become better teachers.

TEACHER, TRAIN THYSELF! (2 Hours)—Just what are the areas in which teachers need training? How can they get the training? This workshop answers both questions, encouraging teachers to take responsibility for their growth as a teacher.

TEACHING DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP (2 Hours)—This workshop is for teachers of adults. It involves the teaching of an actual lesson and then an analysis of how the lesson was taught. It seeks to teach teachers through observation and modeling.

TEAMING UP (1 Hour)—How teachers can discover the excitement and success of team teaching.

THE CARING TEACHER (2 Hours)—This workshop presents teaching as a caring ministry and suggests practical ways teachers can care for their class members.

THE GROWING TEACHER (1 Hour)—This workshop stresses the importance of the spiritual growth of teachers and suggests resources and ways they can grow.

THE R-E-A-D METHOD (2 Hours)—Here is a very simple and effective method for teaching the Bible.

THEOLOGY AND THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER (2 Hours)—This workshop stresses the importance of teachers knowing what they believe and why they believe it. Resources are suggested for increasing their knowledge of basic Christian doctrines.

THOSE DIFFICULT BIBLICAL WORDS (2 Hours)—This practical workshop shows teachers how to go about learning the pronunciation of biblical tongue twisters.

USING STORIES IN TEACHING (2 Hours)—This workshop presents storytelling as an important teaching method and offers help in how to tell them.

USING QUESTIONS IN TEACHING (2 Hours)—The use of questions is one of the most effective teaching methods available. This workshop will help sharpen the question asking skills of teachers.

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULING/INFORMATION FORM**

YOUR NAME_____

CHURCH NAME _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

_____

YOUR PHONE # _____

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

We are interested in the following workshops (list them):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

_____ Please send us more information on these workshops.

_____ Please call me at the number above about scheduling one or more of these for our Sunday School.

PLEASE CLIP THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND SEND IT TO: Bass Mitchell, Field Secretary, Box 39, Ayden, North Carolina 28513; or call 734-8378 (home); 735-3916 (church office); 746-4963 (extension 38—Ayden office).



# Alcohol Problems

With 192,450,000 persons currently in the drinking age population (age 14 and older) in the United States and with 66% of these classed as at least occasional users of alcohol, that means we now have approximately 127 million "drinkers" in the United States.

How many are experiencing alcohol problems?

That isn't a question the census enumerator asks, nor is it something reported in any systematic way to any government or private institution.

Over the years, there have been a variety of methods used to determine how many persons in the total population might be classed as problem drinkers or alcoholics.

Back in 1981, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) gave estimates of the number of alcoholics and problem drinkers in the United States which ranged from 5.75 million to 18 million.

The lowest estimate was based on a formula originally developed by Dr. E. M. Jellinek, a pioneer in the alcoholism field. His formula relied heavily on the rate of death due to cirrhosis of the liver.

The high estimate was based on survey data which took into consideration disruption in personal, work and family life due to alcohol.

Falling in between these two estimates were figures based on surveys and estimates of state alcoholism programs across the United States.

Estimating the number of problem drinkers and alcoholics in the United States is still not an exact science. However, a growing number of surveys conclude that those in trouble with alcohol are more numerous than most earlier estimates.

For example, in the most recent Gallup Poll, 3 in 10 persons surveyed responded that they sometimes drink more than they should.

**DRINKING TOO MUCH**
**GALLUP POLL**

**QUESTION: Do you sometimes drink more than you think you should?**

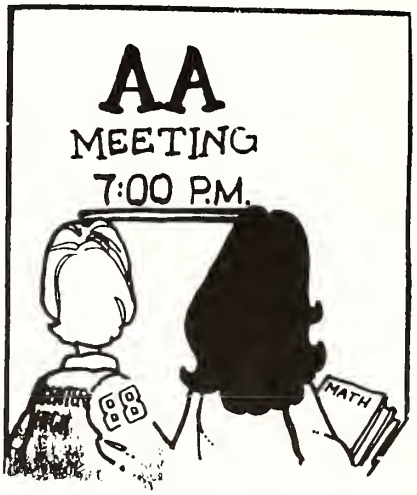
| | |
|---|---|
| 1987 | 29% |
| 1985 | 32% |
| 1978 | 23% |
| 1974 | 18% |

The same survey indicated that 1 in 4 adults said that drinking has been a cause of trouble in their family. This represents an increase of nearly 100% since the question was first asked by Gallup in 1950.

**QUESTION: Has drinking ever been a cause of trouble in your family?**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1987 | 24% |
| 1985 | 21% |
| 1984 | 17% |
| 1981 | 22% |
| 1978 | 22% |
| 1976 | 17% |
| 1974 | 12% |
| 1966 | 12% |
| 1950 | 14% |

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# Alcoholics Anonymous Groups Getting Younger

Nothing special about the AA group which met during noon hour about 10 minutes away from the central business section of our city.

Like many such groups, there were the regulars, along with a constantly changing number of others who were either there because of the convenience, the timing or because they happened to be new in the community.

As we went around the table, sharing experiences and words of encouragement, one of the older members looked around the room and posed the question, "Is there some kind of young people's convention in town this weekend?"

A second look at the 35 or so in attendance that day explained the reason for the question. There seemed to be an unusual number of young people there, several in their teens and another dozen in their early 20's.

No, there wasn't a youth convention in town to bring out so many younger alcoholics. Most were local residents, some visiting this particular group for the first time, but many were "regulars."

So often those of us who go to such meetings are so concerned about maintaining sobriety that we pay little attention to the makeup of the group, and that's good.

But for those who have not noticed, AA is getting younger.

Back in the fifties and sixties, the "typical" AA meeting found mostly men in attendance, with most of the group 35 or older.

But now, many meetings have as many women as men, and a surprising number of young people are going to AA, with many admitting that alcohol is only part of their problem, with a variety of other drugs being involved in their cross-addiction.

Alcoholics Anonymous doesn't do much record keeping. After all, anonymity is an important part of the fellowship of AA. But a 1983 survey of AA members in the United States and Canada revealed that the percentage of young people under 31 entering the fellowship has reached a new high of 20 percent.

This influx of young people into AA has not been a gradual process. Between 1968 and 1977, the young people in Alcoholics Anonymous remained at a constant 7 percent.

Since then, it has nearly tripled.

The survey also showed that among members under 31, the incidence of addiction to other drugs as well as alcohol was 58 percent for men and 64 percent for women compared to a 31 percent rate for the general membership.

For those under 31, the survey indicated that 74 percent of the men and 78 percent of the women were dually addicted.

Used by permission, *The Bottom Line*, Vol. 8, No. 2. (*The Bottom Line* is published by the Alcohol Information Service.)

# COMPETITION WINNERS

Following is a list of the winners of the 1988 State Youth Convention Competitions:









### ARTS AND CRAFTS

**Cherubs**

1—Joanna Edwards, Pee Dee
2—Claire Taylor, Albemarle
3—Jared Edwards, Albemarle

**AFC**

1—Cherye Godwin, Cape Fear
2—Natalie Sumner, Eastern
3—Ina Perry, Albemarle

**YFA**

1—Jennifer Edwards, Pee Dee
2—Gary Slaughter, Albemarle
3—Andy Thompson, Western

### BIBLE BOWL

**AFC**

1—Black Jack Grove Church, Western
2—Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee
3—Elm Grove Church, Central

**YFA**

1—First Church, Tarboro, Central
2—Arapahoe Church, Eastern
3—Beaverdam Church, Pee Dee

### CHRISTIAN WRITING

**AFC**

1—Cliff Slaughter, Albemarle
2—Lisa Ann Faulkner, Central
3—David Currie, Western

**YFA**

1—Terry Thorne, Albemarle
2—Amy Shepard, Eastern
3—Katrina Faulkner, Central

(Turn the Page)









## LESSON PRESENTATION

### AFC

1—Becca Barnes, Western
2—Brad Whaley, Eastern
3—Tammy Liverman, Albemarle

### YFA

1—Jessie Mills, Central
2—Russ Overton, Albemarle
3—Pete Radford, Cape Fear

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

### AFC

1—Babs House, Central
2—Kelly Britton, Albemarle

### YFA

1—Rhonda Mills, Central

## TALENT

### Cherubs

1—First Church, Wilson, Western
2—Cortney Ledbetter, Cape Fear
3—Hickory Grove Church, Central

### AFC

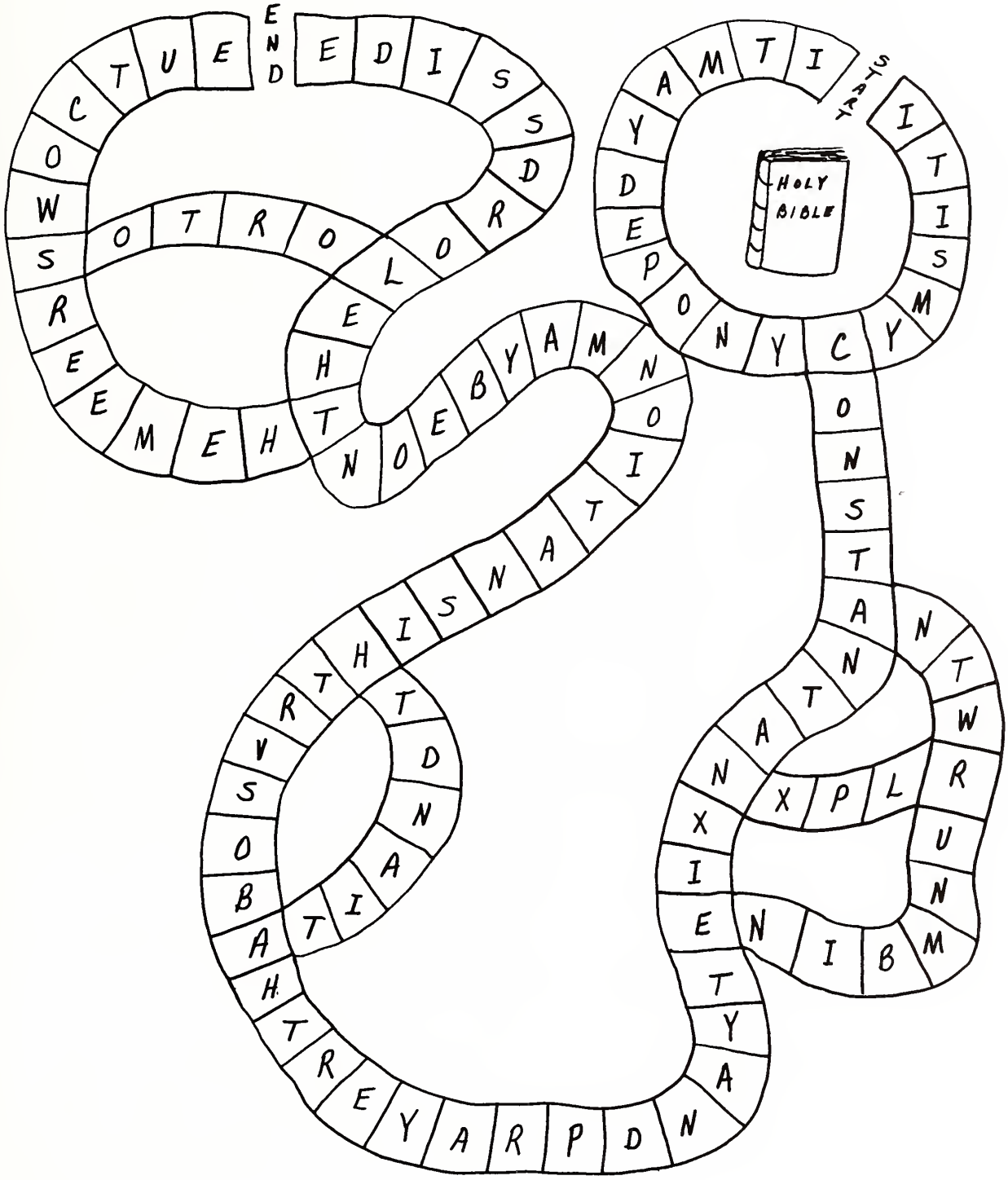
1—First Church, Wilson, Western
2—Duwyann Ward, Pee Dee
3—Tara Harrison, Albemarle

### YFA

1—King's Cross Roads Gospel Band, Central
2—Starlette Cribb, Pee Dee
3—Rebecca Thigpen and Heidi Exxum, Eastern

## A TIME TO REFLECT

In July, our thoughts turn to patriotism. We think about our forefathers and the foundation upon which our country was established. Have you wondered how some of our forefathers felt about God? Follow the correct path from START to END in the word maze and you'll find a sentence by Abraham Lincoln.





## DISTRICT I YOUTH CONFERENCE

*by Fidel Presto*

The Youth Conference of the first district was held in Calawag, Taytay, Palawan. The two-day conference for youth was considered a success. This was held November 16-17, 1987.

The Youth Director, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong, and the National Youth President, Brother Elmer Garcellano, organized the "First District Youth Conference." Participants included workers and delegates of different outreaches in Northern Palawan; New Guinlo, Libertad Taytay, Itangil Dumaran, San Jose Dumaran, and Calawag, Taytay. They arrived on November 16, 1987, at 4:35 p.m., for registration. There were about 15 delegates, including workers, and 10 visitors.

The conference started with the introduction of the delegates, workers, and lectures on the night of November 16. A service to God was included. It ended around 9:50 p.m.

The second day, November 17, was a very pleasant day. We had different activities and challenging lectures. The first lecture was shared by the Youth Director about "The Youth Organization." Another lecture we heard was "How to Organize a Local Youth Group and Its Constitution." This dealt with the duties of officers or leaders in the organization. It was shared by Brother Elmer Garcellano. After the lectures, we had lunch and rested until 2 p.m.

Around 2:05 p.m., the conference resumed with a business meeting. Items on the agenda were the election of officers in the first district and summer camp. The newly elected officers were: President, Pastor Diosdado Manzano; Vice President, Brother Fidel Presto; Secretary, Miss Jonna Magarce; Treasurer, Miss Helen Carabot; Auditor, Miss Amelita Padilla. Other members of the executive body were: Mr. Juanito Delfin, Mr. Mike Magarce, Mr. Danilo Atanoso, Mr. Melecio Atanoso, Miss Nelia Simbajon, Mechai Bargamento, Miss Angelie Galfo, Mr. Rene Aminea, Miss Emily Embrado, and Miss Liza Malacapay.

Different Committees were also appointed: Program Committee Chairman, Miss Nelia Simbajon; Assistant, Miss Amy Padilla; Finance Committee-Chairman, Miss Helen Carabot; Assistant, Mike Magarce; Social/Recreation/ Fellowship/Committee-Chairman, Miss Jonna Magarce; Assistant, Miss Elisa Malacapay; Reception Committee Chairman, Mr. Juanito Delfin, Assistant, Miss Angelie Galfo; Evangelism Committee Chairman, Miss Mechai Bargamento; Assistant, Mr. Danilo Atanoso; and Promotion Committee Chairman, Pastor Fidel Presto; Assistant, Rene Amenia.

It was agreed by the officers and members of District I Youth to hold summer camp at Puerto Princesa City this coming April.

After the two items of business were transacted, the elected officers took their oaths for their responsibility to God and man. Inducting officer was none other than Youth President, Mr. Elmer Garcellano.

The night of November 17 was a joyful night in the village of Calawag, Taytay. Many folks went out to see the presentations. They were laughing and enjoyed watching the puppet show, comical skits, and other events. We also enjoyed the unity and fellowship of each person there. It was tiring, but enjoyable to all.

The goal of the District I Youth Conference is to help maintain a good relationship among the youth and help one another to spread God's Word in the district.

## NANOTA CHURCH AND SCHOOL

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

We were able to organize a big congregation at Nanota, District Saharanpur, located in the state about 220 miles from our church headquarters. Deacon Pritam Singh is the person in charge of

this new congregation and the school. He has a good organizing capacity and is an effective preacher who is greatly respected by Christians and non-Christians both in the whole of that area. He is a village doctor and is also our preacher. We recently started a school at Nanota and Doctor Pritam Singh has contributed largely to the building construction. This school is being run through the local congregation.

Under the auspices of this church, new converts are being nurtured in Christian faith. As of our last meeting on April 12, 1988, at Nanota, about 40 new souls have been brought into the fold of our Lord.

We request that this new venture may be kept in prayers.





### A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

The main concern of the Free Will Baptists in India is evangelization. The Free Will Baptist Church in India is reaching out with the Word of God to the places where it is unheard and unknown.

We had been hearing about a big group of Sikh (people wearing turbans and having long beards) being receptive to Christianity, who had migrated to Tondalpur in the district of Shahjehanpur in our state about 150 miles from our church headquarters. We scheduled February 14, 1988, to visit this place quite unknown to us. As we set out in a jeep, it was raining and breezing; yet we continued to find the place. After travelling for about five hours, we walked four miles further to get to this group.

We were glad to reach the spot and to find a group of people who narrated to us that they had migrated in 1947 and had approached the Salvation Army, the Methodist and the Catholics to organize them into a church and to baptize them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. However, since none responded, they built up their own thatched room for worship.

The place is indeed cut off from the main town and is close to the Mala Jungles, across the big river around their huts where wild animals roam about at any time (such as lions, panthers, pigs and zebras). Though the place has a natural beauty, there is fear of wild animals. These people are professional farmers and yield good crops.

This group of 170 was adopted and a deacon in the name of Sanjay Johnson was ordained on March 1, 1988, and posted in this village. The mass baptisms took place before Easter.

Please remember this congregation in your prayers.

## EXPLOSIVE CHURCH GROWTH IN MEXICO

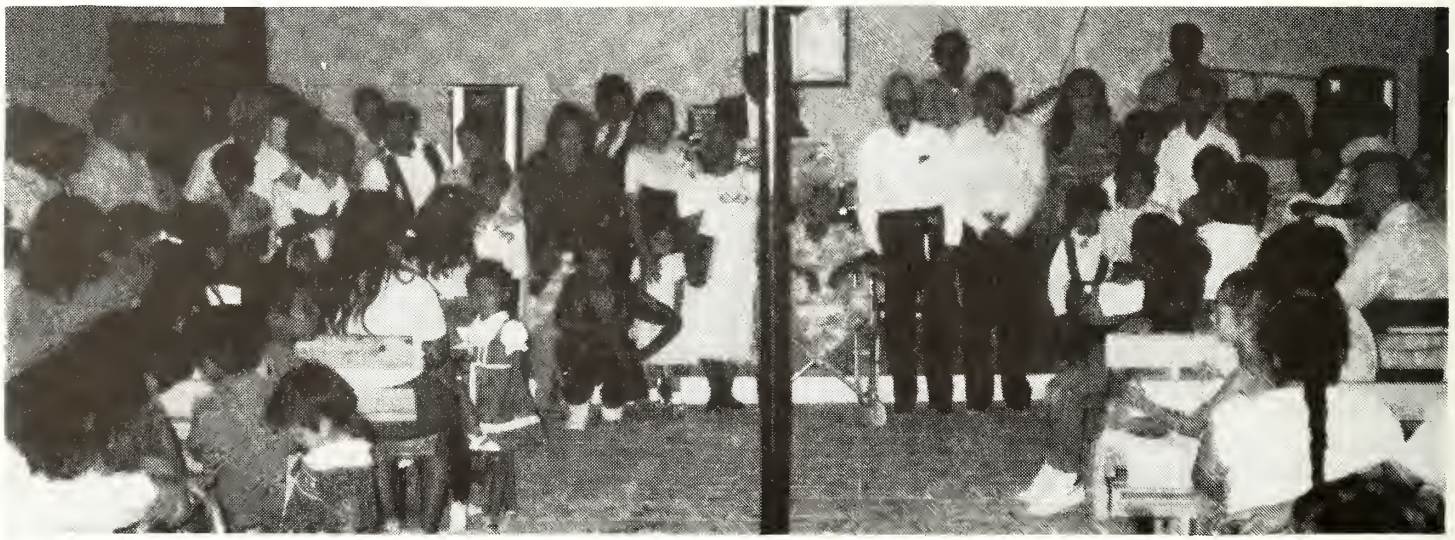
The Ebenezer Free Will Baptist Church in Ejido Piedras Negras, Mexico, has experienced explosive church growth in just a little over a year. Pastor Baldemar Montoya Hernandez and his wife, Alma, pioneered this church. It has grown from just the two of them to 56 baptized members in less than a year and a half. They have constructed a fine building and are pursuing a strong evangelistic program to reach more of the lost people in this area. The Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez and I attended their first year anniversary on May 1. The sanctuary was packed with members and well wishers.



The Rev. Montoya leading the singing at the anniversary celebration.



Ebenezer Church a year and a half ago.



Ebenezer congregation today.

## MOC'S OUTSTANDING FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS

**The following Free Will Baptist students were among those awarded this year for their achievements in academics, athletics and student life.**

Frankie Baggett of White Oak Church, Jones County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Baggett, elected Student Government Association President, Grantham Award (given for efforts to improve resident life in Grantham Hall).

Carlton Bradshaw of Rosebud Church, Wilson County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen R. Bradshaw, Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award.

Hubert F. Brohawn III, of Davis Church, Carteret County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert F. Brohawn Jr., Resident Assistant Award (for service in the men's dormitory).

Michele Brown of Bethlehem Church, Duplin County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Jones, Coaches' Award, Women's Tennis.

Phil Brown of Horton Road Church, Durham County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry G. Brown, President's Award for Citizenship (chosen by ballot of the student body).

Cecil Cahoon II of Bridgeton Church, Craven County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cahoon, Sophia Potts English Award (for excellence in the use of the English language and service to the English Department).

Andy Davis of First Church, Wilson County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Davis, Coaches' Award, Basketball.

Roger Keith Davis of Deep Run Church, Lenoir County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Davis, Free Will Baptist Ministerial Award.

Chris Dawson of White Oak Church, Jones County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherril Dawson, elected Student Government Association Vice President.

Rhonda Flowers of Unity Church, Wilson County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. McClung, Coaches' Award (for dedicated service to the men's basketball team).

Olivia Fountain of Bethlehem Church, Duplin County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvis Fountain, Jordan Award for Citizenship (chosen by ballot of the student body).



Student Government Association officers Chris Dawson, Chris Roberts, Tim Medlin and Frankie Baggett receive plaques for service during the 1987-88 academic year.

Patti Fulgham of Union Grove Church, Wayne County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tex Fulgham, MOC Concert Choir, Leadership Award.

Sally Ann Hallisey of Memorial Church, Beaufort County, daughter of Mrs. Annie Hallisey, Jan Brewer Award (for efforts to gain an education against the odds).

Kelly Hart of La Grange Church, Lenoir County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Hart, MOC Singers—Best Effort Award.

Jeff Howett of Sound Side Church, Tyrell County, son of Mr. O. A. Howett, MOC Concert Choir—Leadership Award.

Tim Jernigan of Shady Grove Church, Sampson County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee M. Jernigan, elected Student Government Association President 1988-89.

Victor Jones of New Haven Church, Craven County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Jones, Student Marshal (3 years).

Wendy Lamm of Rock Springs Church, Nash County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Lamm, Coaches' Award (for dedicated service to the men's basketball team).

Stephanie Lancaster of Stoney Creek Church, Wayne County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lancaster, Student Marshal.

Frank Lawhon Jr., of Tees Chapel Church, Johnston County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lawhon Sr., Student Marshal (2 years), graduated with highest honors.

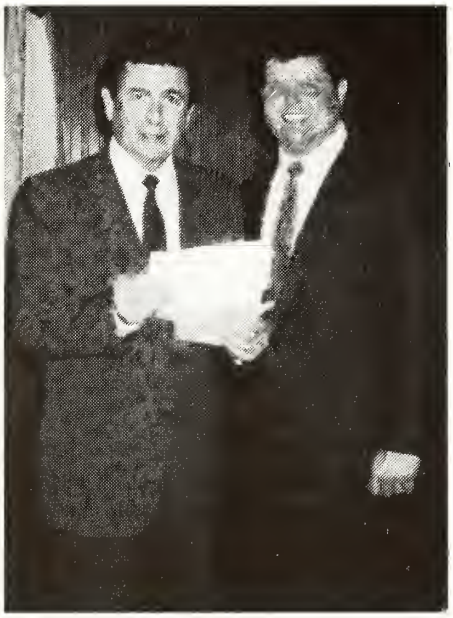
Sherry Martin of Shady Grove Church, Sampson County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Martin Jr., MOC Concert Choir—Honorable Mention, Leadership.

Tim Medlin of Pleasant Grove Church, Wayne County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tony L. Medlin, elected Student Government Association Treasurer.

Tanya Newson of Piney Grove Church, Duplin County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Newson, M. L. Johnson Business Award, Phi Beta Lambda State Secretary.



Jamie Pate receives the Recreation Distinguished Service Award from Chet Diamond.



Phil Brown receives the President's Award for Citizenship from Dr. Raper.

Jamie Pate of Northeast Church, Wayne County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Pate, Recreation Distinguished Service Award.

William A. (Tony) Read of Antioch Church, Wayne County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Read, Most Valuable Player, Tennis.

Chris Roberts of St. Mary's Grove Church, Johnston County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Roberts, elected Student Government Association Secretary.

Andy Silverthorne of Bethel Church, Pamlico County, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Silverthorne, Coaches' Award, Golf.

Michelle Taylor of White Oak Grove Church, Lenoir County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Taylor, Student Marshal, president of FWB Fellowship.

Dirk van der Plas of Arapahoe Church, Pamlico County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willem van der Plas, Student Marshal.

Melissa Ward of Cypress Creek Church, Columbus County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Ward, Coaches' Award, Softball.

Debra Whiteley of White Oak Church, Jones County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whiteley, Student Marshal (3 years), Homecoming Queen, graduated with highest honors.

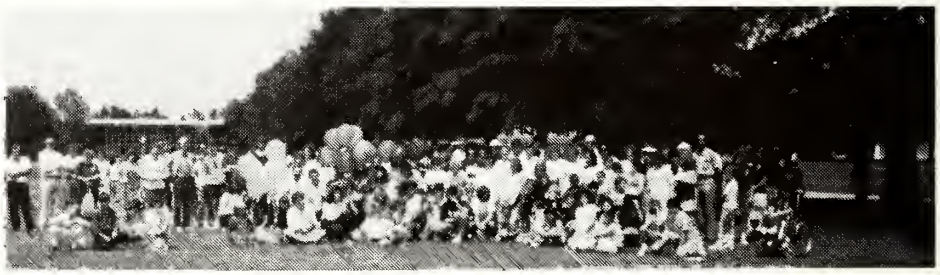
Ron Yopp of Folkstone Church, Onslow County, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Yopp, Most Improved Player, Soccer.



Rhonda Flowers, Shea Bankson, and Wendy Lamm, granddaughters of the Rev. Luther Bissette, pastor of Edgewood Church, receive the Coaches' Award for dedicated service to the men's basketball team.

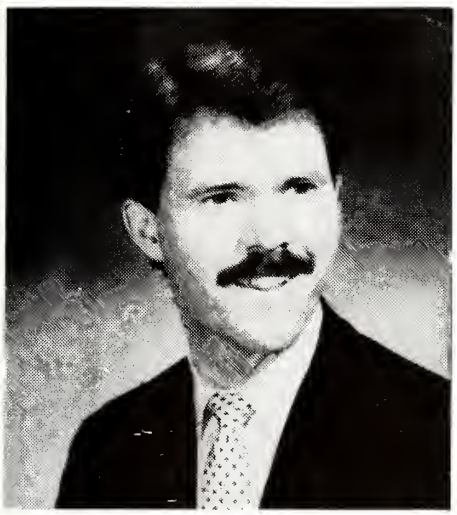


Penny S. Morris, second from right, a 1988 graduate of Mount Olive College, is joined by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Morris, and family during the graduation picnic held on the MOC campus lawn. Penny received a bachelor of science degree in business management. The Morris family holds membership at New Haven Church in Craven County.



Pictured at the future site of Mount Olive College's Student Union Building are a portion of the nearly 600 Free Will Baptists attending the State Youth Convention held at MOC. During the business session of the convention the youths voted to donate $5,000 toward the new building. The gift Is to be made over a two-year period.

## BRADY TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MINISTERS' INSTITUTE



The Rev. Vernon Brady

The Rev. Vernon Brady, vice president of Church Growth Institute in Lynchburg, Virginia, will be the seminar speaker at the annual Ministers' Institute sponsored by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association. The Institute will be held August 8-9 at Mount Olive College in College Hall. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. each day and end at 4 p.m.

Brady, a native of Greensboro, is making a contribution to church growth by teaching seminars and consulting churches across America.

He completed his graduate work at Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary with a masters in Religious Education. While studying under Dr. Elmer Towns, Brady developed a keen understanding of Sunday School and church growth principles.

Dr. Towns developed the all-day seminar, "154 Steps to Revitalize Your Sunday School and Keep Your Church Growing," which Brady will teach. The practical "how-to" seminar has been taught in churches all across America with over 48,000 pastors, teachers and workers in attendance. Church leaders say this seminar has been most beneficial in training and motivating their workers toward more growth.

All area Sunday Schools and churches are invited to participate in the seminar. Each church is invited to send at least two laypersons with their pastor, and each church is urged to pay the $10 registration fee. Sunday School superintendents, assistant superintendents and teachers are especially urged to attend.

Checks for the registration fee may be made payable to the North Carolina Ministerial Association and mailed to the Rev. Ralph Sumner, Treasurer, Box 445, Bridgeton, NC 28519.

For further information, contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).

## MOC PREPARES FOR FALL SEMESTER

Summertime is "orientation time" for those who plan to attend Mount Olive College in the fall. Orientation sessions for incoming freshmen will be held Saturday, July 16, and Friday, August 5.

The Fall Semester officially begins on Sunday, August 28, when the freshmen move into the dorms. There is still time for new and transferring students to apply, and financial aid is available. For more information about MOC's transfer program and the Fall Semester, contact Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).



Members of the STAR (Second Time ARound) Group at Saint Mary's Church in New Bern take time out for a picture during their tour of Mount Olive College in May. Some members were visiting the campus for the first time. Pictured at left on the back row is the pastor of Saint Mary's, the Rev. Marvin Waters.

## WOOD PEST CONTROL DONATES EXTERMINATION



A representative of Wood Pest Control of Smithfield, North Carolina, is shown exterminating Whitley Center the day before the foundation was poured.

Bobby Wood, owner, volunteered his man power and chemicals to prevent termites from entering our new physical education building. Mr. Wood and his family are members of Johnston Union Church in Johnston County.

We would like to say, "Thank you!" to Mr. Wood for thinking of us and the children we serve.



The Rev. David Langley, pastor, and Rex Wainwright, from Bethany Church, are inspecting the foundation for Whitley Center. According to these men, it is ready for construction.

## INTERVIEW SEMINAR CONDUCTED AT CHILDREN'S HOME

*by Gwen Williams, support social worker*

Clayton Sessoms, director of Career Plans and Placement at Atlantic Christian College, visited our campus on Monday, May 23, 1988, to conduct a seminar entitled "The Interview Process." The seminar was presented to the participants of the Preparation for Independent Living Program, for the purpose of successfully guiding them through the job search.

Among the many areas discussed were: (1) The various resources that are available to find out about job opportunities (classified ads, Youth Services, Employment Security Office, "Help Wanted" signs, friends and relatives). (2) The proper method of filling out applications. (3) Tips on the Do's and Don'ts when going for an interview.

Another vital part of the seminar was a slide presentation, which emphasized the qualities an employer looks for, ways to make good impressions, and examples of the most common questions asked during an interview.

The highlight of the seminar was when the participants were given the opportunity to take an active part by roleplaying the introduction phase of an interview. Important points brought to their attention were stating their name, giving Mr. Sessoms a firm handshake and establishing good eye contact.

At the end of the seminar, questions were entertained and appreciation was expressed to Mr. Sessoms for a great presentation.

## BETHANY CHURCH VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME



Members of Bethany Church visited the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Sunday afternoon, May 22, 1988.

The group arrived around 3:30 p.m. and enjoyed a game of softball, followed by refreshments.

Everyone assembled in Memorial Chapel at six o'clock sharp for the evening worship service. The Rev. David Langley brought an inspiring message about sharing love and being a friend.

Some may not remember all that was said about love in the message, but our children will always remember the *love* that was shared that afternoon by those from Bethany Church.

Our children invite your church to hold its Sunday evening service on our campus. Call 235-2161 and set a date to visit your child care ministry.

# MEMO

## DISCOURAGINITIS



*by W. Howard Starling*

Often, when I am discouraged, I think of the Old Testament prophets and the discouragements and obstacles they encountered. There were many.

Elijah stands out in my mind. Often, what appeared impossible did not even shake him. But on one occasion Elijah was rattled so badly because of his fear that he spoke to the Almighty God and said, "I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away" (1 Kings 19:10, 14).

Sometimes we who minister feel that way. We know that there are other great men of God who are doing His work. Yet, when we consider the work to which He has called us, when we think of the goals we have not reached, then we become despondent.

Recently, I have had a bout with the discouragement virus. For a while it affected my vision.

When I was first impressed to come to Charlotte, I saw all the possible pitfalls. However, I was confident that with God's help I could overcome each of them. During our first year, we have reached some who are sincerely interested in building another Bible-centered church. They believe that this is a part of our Lord's overall will for this area. Others are interested, but not so interested that they are ready to make a commitment to enter into the labor.

There is also another group. These appear interested, they promise support, but they are nowhere to be seen. Will they finally respond? Only time can tell.

We are now beginning our second year. At the outset, the response was encouraging, but then came the first setback. One dear family left us. Then work schedules began to bite into the worship services.

(Turn the Page)

Soon the "virus" began to spread. Phase One of the 5-year phase out program of the Home Missions Department began. This, of course, affects our finances. Our own financial support for SWC is meager in comparison to what is needed. Less than twelve percent of our support comes from our own tithes and offerings. The remaining 90% comes from supporting churches through the Home Missions Department.

Our Missions Department is responsible and fully accountable for all funds received. We who are on the receiving end are aware of the enormous costs involved in carrying out the work of just one mission. When compared to other evangelistic ministries we are amazed. When I compare our budget to that of ministries raising one hundred to one hundred and fifty million dollars annually, there is reason for amazement.

Most of these ministries have been accountable for very little up to this time. On the other hand, the Lord has used the talents, the expertise, of our Missions Department to grow flowers in the desert.

When key families are lost, when illness and other unavoidable problems occur, we become vulnerable to the virus. A first symptom is loneliness, the feeling that all of our Lord's disciples have gone fishing; that there is no one but *ME* to bring in the harvest. The problem: those fishing disciples have taken all the farm tools with them.

What do the farm hands do?

In a burst of final exasperation we cry out, "I, even I only, am left . . . ." But is that true?

In Elijah's case, the LORD God told him, "Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal . . ." (1 Kings 19:18).



Likewise, we need have no fear. The almighty and living God will give us a harvest of souls.

There are many to whom He has spoken within the churches of our denomination who are already responding to the need. There are others who are even now preparing to respond to the needs of the Home Missions Department.

Some are undecided. It isn't that they don't want to help, but simply that they want to help in some special and personal way.

It takes only a few seeds to grow a garden. Of course, the more seed sown, the larger the garden, the greater the harvest. Why not become a sower today? (Call or write to the Home Missions Department about the "Sower's Club.")

Besides you and those I have mentioned above, there are those hearts the Lord is preparing here in Charlotte, many who do not even know at this moment that Suburban Woods Free Will Baptist Church exists. But He is touching their hearts with a burden for the many souls who are lost in our community. He is preparing their hearts to become part of our evangelistic ministry.

Finally, He is impressing many to become "effectual fervent" pray-ers. Prayer still changes things.

We are getting over the "discouraginitis," that awful virus that attacks those who allow momentary fear to weaken them. We are looking "unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."

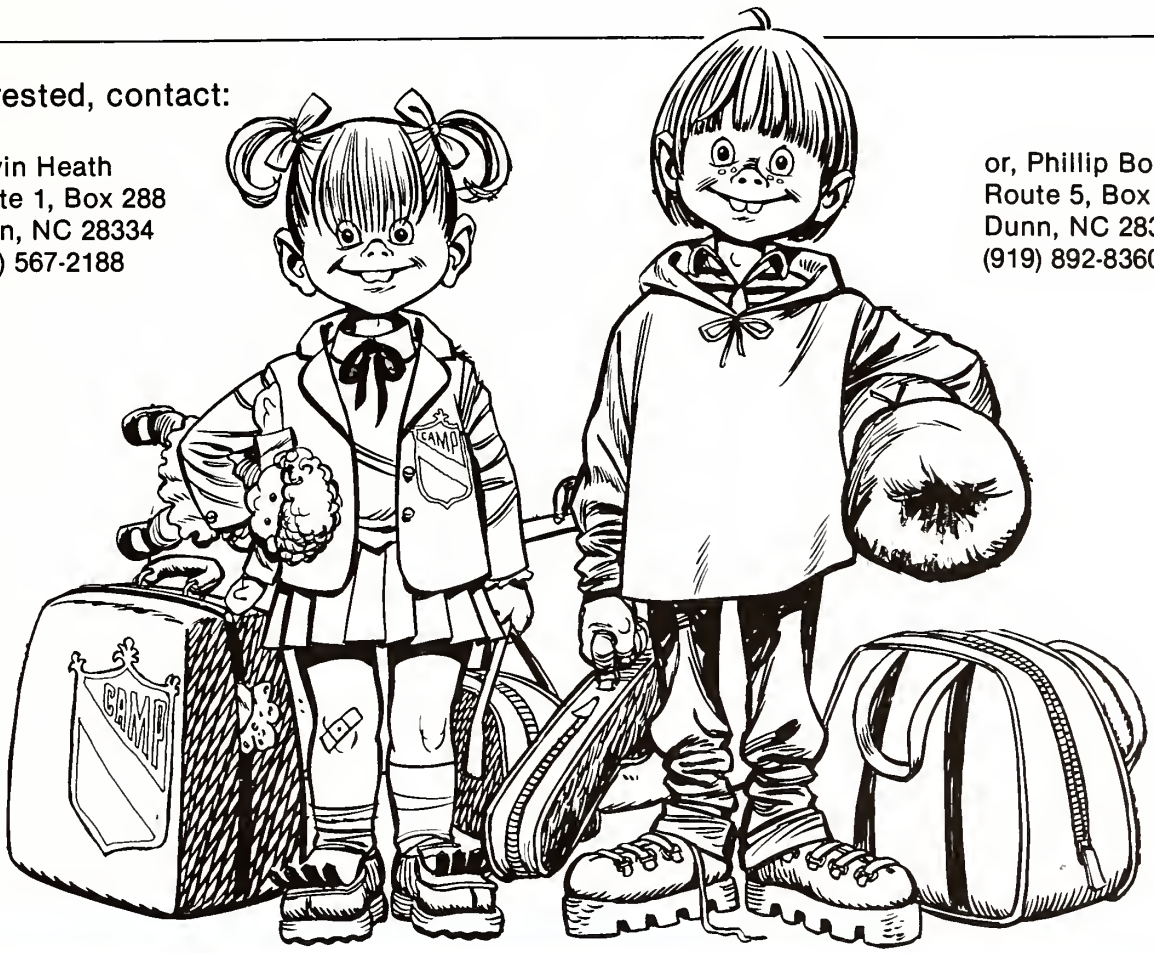
He has ministered His faith to our hearts and we are returning to the work. Our eyes are open, we still have the vision, to touch lives for a lifetime!

Mr. Starling serves with the Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department in Charlotte, NC.

If interested, contact:

Calvin Heath
Route 1, Box 288
Dunn, NC 28334
(919) 567-2188

or, Phillip Boykin
Route 5, Box 177
Dunn, NC 28334
(919) 892-8360




**Inviting All Youth—No Age Limit**
**Camp Vandemere**
**August 8-12**
**$55 per Camper**

### SCRIPTURES TO HELP YOU CAST YOUR BALLOT

Deciding how to vote is not just a matter or listening to the candidates debate.

To help the Christian voter this election year, the American Bible Society has published "Facing Choices," which incorporates five New Testament passages from Paul's letter to the church in Rome that speak to the ideals of service to God and society.

In no way does "Facing Choices" attempt to advise which candidate to pick. That of course if for each person to decide. Its intent is simply to call attention to the need for responsibility in choosing, for exercising wisdom and care in making a judgment.

The leaflet with its Scripture selections from Romans in Today's English Version and its montage of newspaper headlines on the cover will be available throughout 1988.

### ANSWER TO CHILDREN'S CORNER

(See Page 19)

"It is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this nation may be on the Lord's side." (Start the puzzle to the right.)

## VISIT ISRAEL: NOW MORE THAN EVER

*by Tom Sawicki*

Mr. Sawicki is on the staff of the Jerusalem office of the Anti-Defamation League.

Take a cue from Richard Dreyfuss. Upset about the reports from Israel? Then come to see for yourself what is really going on. The actor, a long-time supporter of the Jewish state, was an early critic of Israel's actions in quelling the West Bank and Gaza disturbances, as shown on television. Today he is touring Israel, driving up and down the country, talking to people, and feeling perfectly safe and undisturbed by anyone, except maybe by some fans or the Israeli driver.

Not all the figures are in yet, but it appears that many tourists are staying away from Israel because of the recent events, especially Jews who normally account for about three-quarters of American visitors to Israel each year. Last year some 1.3 million tourists came to Israel. This year, a drop of about 20% is expected, representing a loss of over a quarter of a billion dollars to Israel's economy!

How can one impress on old and potential new friends the importance of their visiting here especially at this time? The Israelis know that holidays in their country can be enjoyed without any fear or danger. Now they need to get the message out to others.

A recent visitor, Sheriff John Carpenter from Santa Barbara County in California, who came to Israel with the Anti-Defamation League mission for U.S. law enforcement officials, says in a letter to the *Santa Barbara News:* ". . . travel in Israel is much safer than in most American cities . . . there were 28 U.S. cities with a population of over 100,000 or more that had more murders last year than all of Israel. Jerusalem is a city of over 400,000 people where you can walk and shop day and night. In what U.S. city of comparable size can you do that?"

This is not to ignore a very difficult reality Israel faces. The country may be entering the most critical juncture in its 40-year history. Is it therefore the right time to stay away from Israel? Since 1948, the Arabs have tried to isolate Israel while Arab terrorism has aimed to place Israel off-limits, to make it appear unsafe. Let's not give terrorists a victory they cannot win on the battlefield.

Those who base their view of the situation in this region primarily on television broadcasts cannot ignore the media's main interest: a report with as much violence as they can dig up.

The televised reports on Israel's main tourist attraction, Jerusalem, for example, have shown riots, confrontation, tear gas. The trouble lasted a few minutes only, but it leaves an indelible impression.

Those staying away from Israel should ask themselves: Are we making a political statement? Are we helping anyone? What has the intifada (uprising) gained for the Palestinians, apart from attracting world attention and turning some people against Israel? Has it brought them closer to peace or greater control over their lives? Has all that attention made them more accepting of Israel?

Now more than ever every effort must be made to bring people to Israel, to show them that the country is safe. Those who could not get here fast enough in the summer of '67 must again make the effort, and bring along their children.






## NEW RESOURCES FOR TOTAL GROWTH LEARNING

*Joni Eareckson Tada in*
*Let's Be Friends*
*and Meet My Friends*
When beloved author and speaker Joni Eareckson Tada gets together with kids, something special happens. In this two-part video series designed especially for elementary-age children, Joni talks with kids about what it means to be disabled—and how to be friends with those who have handicaps. Used with the four-session leader's guide (available separately), each video segment becomes a powerful lesson on understanding and accepting disabled people. This series can be incorporated into any Sunday School curriculum, Children's Church, club program, Vacation Bible School, or family devotion time.

*Tarbell's*
*Teacher's Guide*
For 84 years this classic commentary has been the reliable companion of Sunday School teachers, students, and superintendents everywhere. The new September, 1989 -August, 1989, edition continues that tradition, making lesson presentation easier and more fruitful for those who teach.

Based on the International Sunday School Lessons, Tarbell's includes Bible texts from both the King James and Revised Standard Versions. It's packed with interest-grabbing anecdotes, explanatory notes, teaching tips, home Bible readings, and topics for both youth and adults. Its easy-to-use format helps every teacher make God's Word come alive. Contains 52 lesson commentaries; 290 pages.

*Lay Action*
*Ministry Program*
Here are three new books in a series that equips believers with the basics they need, like learning to read the Bible and pray, and finding their role in the church family. Each of the LAMP volumes is self-instructional and completely outlined with fill-in-the-blank questions.

*How to Discover Your Spiritual Gifts*
*A Panorama of the Bible*
*Your Ministry at Home*

*Christianomics*
This program shows everyone in your church—children, teens, and adults—how to handle money in a scriptural way. These dynamic, easy-to-follow courses and sermon outlines have been written by successful businessman and international economic consultant Jim Jackson. Let them help you and your group develop effective, God-honoring plans for personal and family finances.

*What'cha Gonna Do With What'cha Got? A Study in Christianomics* (Adult Text)
*A 13-Session Study in Christianomics.* (Adult Leader's Guide)
*Christianomics for Young People*
(Leader's Guide and Student Work Sheets)
*Stewardship Sermons in Christianomics*
*A Steward-ship Adventure:*
*Christianomics for Kids*
(Leader's Guide and Student Work Book)

**For more information, contact the Free Will Baptist Press or one of the branch stores in Kinston, New Bern, and Wilson.**

THE LABORERS FOR CHRIST, a singing group from Haymount Church, Fayetteville, is available to sing in your church. The group accepts love offerings to defray expenses.

For bookings, call Dennis or Gail Canady, 425-1562; or Bobby Hales, 425-1453. Tapes are available for review upon request.

THE CAPE FEAR UNION MEETING will convene with Goldsboro, First Church, on Saturday, July 23, 1988. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotions, the Rev. Phillip Boykin
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, Haymount Church
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union Meeting
—Appointment of Committee
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music, Host Church
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Dewey Boling
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committee
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Hubert Stanley
Secretary, Martha Parsons

THE EXAMINING BOARD OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE will meet at Saints Delight Church (Craven County), located two miles north of the New Bern and Bridgeton Road (off 17 on the Saints Delight Church Road), Monday, July 18, 1988, at 10 a.m.

All who have business with the Board are asked to attend.

THE ORDAINING COUNCIL OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE will meet on July 11, 1988, at 7 p.m. at the Free Will Baptist Headquarters Conference Room in Ayden. Anyone having business with the Ordaining Council is asked to be present. Ministers who are assuming pastorates of churches in the Central Conference and are members of other conferences are required to receive a clearance from the Ordaining Council.

### MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Dale Yarborough wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral duties. Interested individuals may contact him at the following address and phone number: Route 1, Box 242-A, Scranton, SC 29591; (803) 389-4498.

### ADDRESS CHANGE

The Rev. Bryant Hines Jr. wishes to announce a change of address. His new address and phone number are as follows: Box 266, Cove City, NC 28523; 633-2683.

### RUSSIANS WILL NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR BIBLES, SAYS ABS

(ABS)—Russian Baptists, who are awaiting the arrival this year of a gift of 100,000 Bibles from Baptists in the United States and the Bible Societies, can go to their local churches to obtain copies.

Furthermore, churchgoers will not have to pay for them, says Dr. John D. Erickson, an officer of the American Bible Society and also of the global United Bible Societies fellowship, which is producing and shipping the Bibles in partnership with the Baptist World Alliance.

The costs have already been borne by the partnership.

Christians who receive the Bibles will be asked only to give an offering of thanks for receiving the Scriptures, but this is entirely voluntary.

Because they are a gift the Bibles may not be offered for sale, says the Rev. Dr. Ulrich Fick, general secretary for UBS. That would go against regulations.

The only possible distribution channel is through the churches, adds Dr. Fick. Bookstores or similar outlets for Scriptures do not exist in the Soviet Union, as is also the case in many of the more than 180 countries where the Bible Societies are active. Nor is there the same access to the media.

This pattern of distribution is identical to the one followed two years ago for a shipment of 10,000 Russian Bibles which the Bible Societies and the Baptists sent to Moscow, the American Bible Society reports.

At that time regional superintendents of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUCECB) traveled to the capital from other parts of the Soviet Union to collect their allocation, which was based on local church membership.

# The Free Will Baptist

August, 1988

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DIVINITY SCHOOL LIBRARY



## The Key to a BRIGHTER FUTURE

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

August, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 8

3 Convention Perspectives

7 Who Are the Unchurched?

11 Film Causes Furor

14 In the News

16 The Christian Teacher

17 For Parents and Other Human Beings

19 Youth Focus

21 Children's Corner

22 Ministries Update

31 News Briefs

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.* The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**



# CONVENTION PERSPECTIVES

*by De Eakes*
*President, North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist*

In just a few short weeks, the seventy-sixth session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be convening. This major denominational event is tremendously important to the work of our entire Convention, our outreach and auxiliary ministries, and the work of all seven of our conferences.

The leaders of all the old "Union Conference" and member churches realized that as our denomination grew we needed a stronger more centralized organizational structure. Acting on this realization, the groundwork was laid; and in 1912, the motion was made to dissolve the "Union Conference" and the "North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists" was born. In 1913, the newly formed Convention convened in Bailey, NC. That church ceased to exist and that building was moved from Bailey to the present site of Rock Springs Church.

The purpose of the newly formed Convention is stated in the preamble of our present Constitution: "We the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, assembled in order to **advance, promote,** and **increase** the **cause of Jesus Christ,** do establish and ordain this constitution and these bylaws." The founding dream of our Convention has been faithfully adhered to over the past three quarters of a century. This year's Convention ushers in the beginning of the fourth quarter of our first one hundred years as a Convention. (This is not to be confused with our age as a denomination—our first organized church on record is 1727 at Cisco Community near Edenton, NC; as a denomination we are two hundred seventy-one years old.)

There are several marks of the results of the cooperative efforts of our seven conferences through the Convention. The work of each of our ministry programs bears witness to the success of our dream. The only existing ministry program predating our Convention is the Free Will Baptist Press. Undoubtedly the seeds of Mount Olive College were planted in the earlier Ayden-Seminary/Eureka College work which later failed due to several adversities.

The Children's Home, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Retirement Homes, Church Finance, Cragmont Assembly, and the Ministers' Program have all come about since the forming of our Convention. Our auxiliary programs are also promoted through the Convention. The Woman's Auxiliary, Sunday School Convention, League Convention and Layman's League Convention are all auxiliary works growing from our Convention.

All of that is to say this—our Convention's health is essential to the health of our entire denomination and all of our member churches. And you, "Mr., Mrs., or Ms." Original Free Will Baptist, are the key to the health of your local church, your conference and your Convention. One very concrete way you contribute is by your involvement.

Your involvement in the local church is essential. We are a strong denomination. God has blessed us richly as a denomination. If things run about true to form in most churches, we have from twenty-five to fifty percent inactive members. Look at what our local churches and our ministries could accomplish if all of our Original Free Will Baptists were active!

Another way for you to be active is to represent your church at the Annual Convention. Each church is entitled to one delegate per one hundred members or fraction thereof (i.e. a church from 1-100 members has one delegate; a church from 101-200 members has two delegates; etc.) plus your pastor. There is one delegate from each union meeting, conference, or association in proper relationship with the Convention for every five hundred members or fraction thereof.

Each local church, union meeting, conference, and pastor needs to be properly registered and in attendance for the **entire convention.** All authority of the Convention is established by the voting delegates and ministers—if you are not present your voice is not heard in the decision-making process.

Our Constitution states in Article I, Section 2, "Before membership is established, all ministers and delegates must be properly registered." This

(Turn the Page)

includes being listed as delegates by your church, union meeting or conference and having paid the appropriate registration fees. The fees are $5 per delegate and $10 for each minister. Most churches pay this fee for their delegate and minister(s). This fee needs to be added to your regular Convention offerings, not simply included in what you were previously giving. One of the goals we have at our Convention is to have a 100% representation of all churches, union meetings and conferences. Because of our small size, this is a **real possibility!** Only you can make that happen. Please encourage your church and your minister to be present with a complete delegation!

There are some future goals we wish to see accomplished. The Headquarters renovation project has been completed. Our working situation there is much improved! Thank you for your support. One of our future goals (and one I hope that will be realized in the not too distant future) is the employment of a General Secretary for our denomination. As you may remember, we had such a person employed for one year. After that, the office ceased to be funded. Efforts to fill that vacancy since that time have not met with success. Having served on our Convention Executive Committee four years and as President for two years, I understand the need of this person much more than before. There are so many things a person full-time in this office could do for our denomination, things a person, such as myself in full-time ministry, simply cannot do because of time and energy limitations. We need this person employed by the Convention. I know all past presidents and officers of the Convention understand this need, as do many of our laymen and ministers. Funding this office, salary, expenses and a support person will probably cost us $50,000 per year. You, our churches, union meetings and conferences are our only source of support. Make this a prayer concern! Send us your $1 per member (minimum) and your delegates' and pastors' registration fees. August is State Convention Month! Please receive a special offering for our Convention—we need this expansion of our Convention's work! It will benefit all of us greatly.

Our Convention theme this year is "Gifts for Service." We are a servant people. We are a gifted people. How well are we using His gifts to us as stewards, disciples, servants of our King? See you at "Convention '88!"

We are growth oriented! Following you will see the five-year growth goals adopted for 1985-1990. Where are we in reaching these goals? What are you doing to help realize our dreams?

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS FIVE-YEAR PLAN**

I. One of the primary aims of the State Convention during the five-year period, 1985-1990, is to help those within and without our denomination know who Original Free Will Baptists are in light of our history, our distinctiveness as a church, our beliefs, and our work as servants of all. In order to achieve a new sense of *identity*, we must:
   A. Provide resources to make our people and others aware of of the vital role of Original Free Will Baptists in the world, in history, and at present.
   B. Provide encouragement for total involvement of Original Free Will Baptists in the common goal of service.
   C. Promote the Original Free Will Baptist Church through the public media and literature.
   D. Use and encourage the use of our logo as a mark of our identity.

II. A second aim calls for a new vitality among our people, churches, conferences, and the enterprises of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. In order to achieve this needed *revitalization*, we must:
   A. Encourage a renewed emphasis on worship, prayer, Bible reading and study.
   B. Promote a focus on the servanthood of the body of Christ, and members in particular (1 Corinthians 12:27).
   C. Provide and identify resources for leadership development and training.

III. A third aim is *growth*. To expand the ministry of the local churches, conferences, and denomination, we must:
   A. Encourage the local churches, conferences, and enterprises to set goals for growth and develop a program for their accomplishment.
   B. Provide and identify resources which will enable Original Free Will Baptists to effectively plan and reach their goals for growth.

IV. A fourth aim is *unification*. We must work to unify Original Free Will Baptists by involving the people, churches, conferences, and enterprises in the shared ministry of service. In order to achieve a new sense of unification, the Executive Committee must:
   A. Co-ordinate the planning of the enterprises in order that unity might be promoted and we be found good stewards of our resources.
   B. Provide opportunities for cooperative planning and promotion by churches, conferences, and enterprises.
   C. Keep our people fully informed regarding the work and accomplishments of Original Free Will Baptists.
   D. Maintain an office in the Headquarters for the purpose of promoting the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERSHIP HOLDERS**
**SEPTEMBER 6, 1988**

The annual meeting of the membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Inc. will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina, on Tuesday, September 6, at 10 o'clock a.m., for the purpose of electing the appropriate number of Directors, receiving reports from officers, and transacting such business as may properly come before the meeting.

# NIGHT OF EVANGELISM
# September 13, 1988

College Hall
Mount Olive College
7:30 p.m.



This special evening will feature:
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church Choir
Chinquapin, NC

Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church Handbell Choir
Rock Ridge, NC

Singers from Verona Free Will Baptist Church
Jacksonville, NC

The Rev. T. O. Terry
New Bern, NC

The Rev. Mike Ledbetter
Dunn, NC

# 1988 STATE CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

## (Board of Foreign Missions in charge)

**Date:** September 14, 1988
**Time:** 7:30 P.M.
**Place:** College Hall, Mount Olive College
**Speaker:** Fred Baker
**Testimony:** Linda Baker
**Special Music:** The Valley Airs



*Stevie, Fred, Linda and Kim*

The Bakers just completed a five-year term of service in the Philippines, from 1983-1988. They are home for a one-year furlough. Plan now to attend and show your appreciation to this family that so faithfully serves our Lord in the Philippines. Come and bring a large representation from your church.

**Special offering:** Your special offering at this Mission Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

# WHO ARE THE UNCHURCHED?

## IDEAS ABOUT THE CHURCH

The question, **What comes to your mind when you think about church?** This was open ended, allowing the person to write in his or her own ideas. The responses did fall into some broadly defined groupings. Those are given in order of preference. Percentages may not add up to one-hundred because some responses included more than one category.

1. Criticism of church 35%
   For example: "Devout believers surrounded by phonies," "negative experiences as a child," "social gatherings to placate a sense of requirement rather than a sense of desire."
2. A place 26%
3. Some relational aspect 23%
   For example: "fellowship," "support," "place to get together."
4. Worship 12%
5. Meets personal needs 9%
   For example: "To gather yourself and feel good about life," "where you can think and be honest about yourself."
6. Teaching 7%

(Turn the Page)

A whopping one-third, the largest single grouping, volunteered criticism of the church. Their first thoughts about "church" were negative. Pastors, we have an image problem that we can't ignore!

Only a few perceived the church as an opportunity for personal interaction or what we call Christian fellowship. Fewer expected to find the church offering a worship experience with God! Still fewer expected that their personal needs would be met. No wonder people are staying away from the church in droves. Most think of it negatively as a place associated with unpleasant possibilities. Most don't expect it to be friendly, to offer a genuine worship experience or to meet a personal need.

The next question asked, What should a church be like, be doing? This was also open ended. The responses fit some broad categories. They are represented in percentages below.

1. Should help people 48%
2. Criticism 27%
   For example: "Shouldn't push religion on people," "not hypocritical," "not so concerned with ceremony."
3. Relational 18%
4. Worship/learn about God 7%

A significant finding was the undercurrent of criticism toward the church's perceived strictness. This criticism was stated as, "needs a more relaxed atmosphere that allows for questions." "No holier than thou stuff." "Not so harsh on members." "Shouldn't push religion on people." These responses are from unchurched people who have some definite ideas about what the church is like and they think it is strict, narrow and pushy.

Another undercurrent from the responses in this section was a cry for the church's responsiveness to people's needs. A thread woven throughout was a call for the church to be more specialized in its approach. This was stated as, "respond to what its congregation dictates as their needs," "concerned for its own people," and "offer a place for people to come the way they are."

I later asked the open-ended question, How could a church be helpful to you? There were fewer write-in responses to this question than any of the rest. The responses given fit into some general categories.

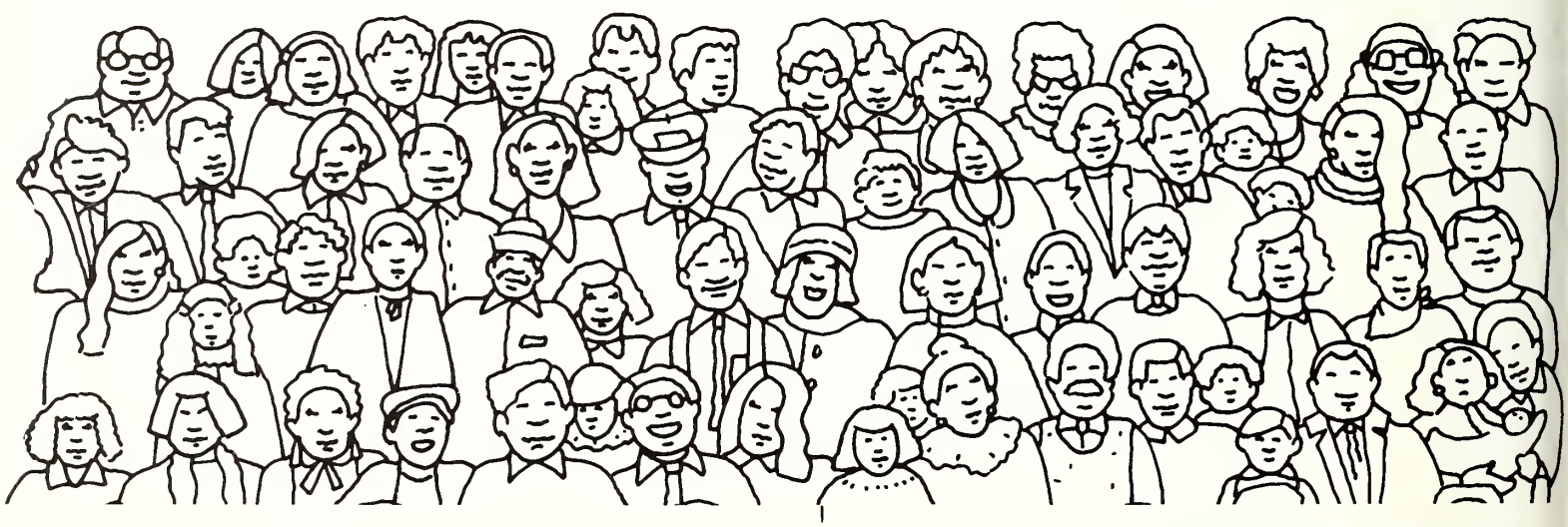
1. Be relational/supportive 37%
2. Worship/understand God 17%
3. Accepting 16%
4. Meet personal needs 10%
5. Teaching 10%
6. I want to serve 10%

To this question over one-third formulated an answer that suggested their need for personal support and relational opportunities. One person stated it, "Care and help on a personal basis." Another replied, "It would be a friendly group to share good times and hard times." In an increasingly impersonal society the church could capitalize on the thirst for personal relationships. Certainly the church inherently possesses the relational dynamic with its Christian fellowship and love for one another.

Almost half of the people expressing a relational need couched it in terms of being accepted by the church. Perhaps they feel judged or condemned by the church or Christians. One person asked for "Support when I need it, no matter if I'm right or wrong." Another asked for "Support without pressure."

Clearly people are looking for a nonjudgmental, personal touch from the church. Can the institutional church respond? In the midst of big programs and activities can the church touch people on a personal level?

In conversation recently with a friend who works for one of America's largest denominations, he



remarked, "I've been working with large churches. Without exception each of them is trying frantically to make people feel in touch with each other in the church. They're trying to make their churches "feel" personal. Funny. Big church pastors are trying to make their churches feel small. Yet, most small church pastors are concerned with getting bigger rather than capitalizing on the personal nature of the small church."

Only a few respondents indicated a request for some guidance in spiritual matters! This is incredible! The church, the obvious organization in our society that could offer guidance in spiritual matters and in knowing God, is not perceived as that sort of resource by 90% of the respondents. Has the church lost its position as a resource for spiritual knowledge and experience? Only one person mentioned the church as helping in developing her relationship with God. Only two mentioned the church as a help in understanding the Bible.

I offered the multiple choice question, What about the church turns off most people? The results are given in order from most selected to least selected. The numbers to the right indicate the actual number of times chosen, not percentages.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Hypocrites | 43 |
| 2. | Lays on a guilt trip | 26 |
| 3. | Holier-than-thous | 25 |
| 4. | Emphasis on money | 24 |
| 5. | Meaningless ritual | 24 |
| 6. | Too formal | 20 |
| 7. | Pushy teaching | 18 |
| 8. | Unrelated to real life | 17 |

Of course, in giving what they think turns off most people, respondents expressed their own beefs with the church. There is a smorgasbord of complaints against the church. The sad fact is that most had a specific experience to back up their complaints. A casual analysis of the above reveals a gripe with Christians who fail to live consistently with their faith. Further, Christians who act superior to the unchurched are resented. These biases are against the individual Christian.

People were also put off by guilt inducing, pushy sermons, an emphasis on raising money, ritual, formality and the distance between church and everyday life. What does this say to us as pastors? Several factors: That:

- **We should work to develop in our people Christian lives of integrity and humility.**
- **We should be careful of haranguing people from the pulpit.**
- **We should not make appeals for money when unchurched people are likely to be visiting.**
- **We should analyze our worship services and try to move away from other-worldly, formal ritualism to an emphasis on the personal and the practical.**

No small order! Especially for some of us in older, more traditional situations. People already in a church might prove resistive to such changes. Many churches will not be able to change at all. But as the age of the congregants increases and membership drops as they die, who will populate the pews? Will the presently unchurched eventually move back into the church in spite of the "turn-offs" they marked? Surely some churches can boldly adapt the form of worship services, meetings and programs to be less offending to the unchurched. Perhaps beyond less offensive, even attractive! These unchurched people seemed to be asking for something relational, meaningful and responsive to personal needs. Are they asking too much? Are they asking for anything that the church shouldn't be doing anyway?

## WHEN AND WHY DID THE UNCHURCHED LEAVE THE CHURCH?

Most of the people in my study indicated that they left the church in their late teens. This represents a generation at risk, the "baby-boomers" who left the church during their teens. How can the church reach this generation? What will it mean if the church doesn't reach them and if, resultingly, our country has almost an entire generation separated from an ongoing involvement with Christianity? Scary prospects!

I next queried, Why did you stop your church participation? This was followed by the many reasons I had been hearing, from which a respondent could circle those most fitting. The reasons most often given were:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Got involved in other things | 26 |
| 2. | Put off by hypocrites | 20 |
| 3. | Dull, boring | 17 |
| 4. | Wasn't meeting needs | 14 |
| 5. | Didn't like organized religion | 14 |
| 6. | Moved | 10 |
| 7. | Had questions the church couldn't answer | 10 |
| 8. | I got tired of it | 9 |
| 9. | Didn't like the priest or minister | 8 |
| 10. | Self-righteous people | 8 |
| 11. | Resented appeal for money | 7 |
| 12. | It stifled my thinking | 6 |
| 13. | Unfriendly church people | 6 |
| 14. | Parents stopping going | 4 |
| 15. | I began doing things that conflicted with church teachings | 4 |

(Turn the Page)

Responses show that most initially left the church because it wasn't holding their interest (got involved in other things + dull, boring + wasn't meeting needs = 57%). How can we more intensively focus on church attenders in their late teens with personalized, relevant ministry? That's the question we must face if we are to stem the tide of attrition.

The next question asked, "As best you know, why are you not presently involved with a local Christian church? The reasons selected in order were:

1. Other: (I'm dependent, not necessary, confused, work, etc. No real patterns) 19
2. Not enough time 14
3. Not interested 13
4. My beliefs are different 12
5. I avoid pushy religion 11
6. Had bad experience with the church 8
7. Inconvenient meeting time 7
8. I'm opposed to organized religion 7
9. I resent church's appeal for money 6
10. The people who go are hypocrites 4
11. Interested in _____ more (philosophy, nature, family) 3
12. It's dull, irrelevant 2
13. Church beliefs aren't reasonable 1
14. I have problems with some people who attend 1
15. My friends would ridicule me 0

The responses were too spread to define any general patterns. Perhaps the only pattern reflected is that when choosing not to attend church, any old excuse will do. For unchurched people there's no compelling reason to attend church!

The last question about the church was, If you were ever to become involved with a Christian church, what would possibly be the reasons for your decision? The reasons were selected in the following order:

1. Child's religious training 19
2. Guidance for living 18
3. Desire to make a change 17
4. Friendship 15
5. Appreciation for nature 15
6. Good feelings toward God 13
7. Birth of a child 13
8. Desire to know God better 10
9. Uncontrollable life problems 8
10. Curiosity 8
11. A conversation with a friend about religion 7
12. Other: Don't think I ever will, like a particular minister, inner peace, spiritual emptiness, etc. No real patterns)
13. To put my life back together after a tragedy 6
14. A church member's life and interest in me 5
15. Attracted by certain activities (helping others, socialize) 3
16. Personal illness or injury 2
17. A visit from the pastor 1
18. To handle guilt feelings from immoral behavior 1
19. A newspaper ad 0

Responses show that we need to be especially attentive to unchurched people who are in the childbirthing/rearing stage of life. Unchurched people also are expressing an inclination toward the church when it's time for a change or new direction in life. How many millions of Americans are at a change point of their lives every day? Surely many. How can we best engage them at that point of need?

## CONCLUSIONS

As pastors we have a unique responsibility and opportunity to lead our churches in reaching the unchurched.

1. **We must work with present church people to develop Christian maturity, integrity and consistency of lifestyle.** Of course, no Christians are perfect. All Christians make mistakes and even deliberately sin from time to time. So while developing an increasingly consistent Christian life we must also learn humility—the humility to admit it when we fail. The unchurched will be impressed by genuine Christianity, consistency in life and the ability to admit wrong.

Church people also need to develop the ability to express **openness, warmth acceptance and love to newcomers.**

**2. We must patiently work to adjust the church's forms of ministry and worship.** Although there are some basics in doctrine that we cannot tamper with, there may be many points in our orders of service and programs that can be altered to be less offensive to the unchurched. Our services and programs should be **relevant** to the needs and lives of people in our society. The services and programs should also be **warm, personal and inviting.**

3. **We must make an effort to reach out to the unchurched.** We cannot let ourselves be content with just enough congregants to make the building look half-full and just enough money to meet expenses. We must lead our people to reach out with informed and genuine compassion for the unchurched.

Reprinted from *United Evangelical*, March, 1988.



# FILM CAUSES FUROR

No, I have not viewed the film; and from what I have heard, read, been told, and gathered, I will not. *The Last Temptation of Christ* will not only serve to discredit our Lord, but it will gross millions of dollars if allowed to be shown in local theatres. (One has to wonder if all the publicity is a studio's dream, for what better way to get viewers than by controversy.) When such ministers as the Rev. Lloyd Ogilvie, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, and Dr. James Dobson call for the film's destruction, I have to believe they know that of which they speak.

I encourage you to study the following material—and I must warn you of its content. Some will believe no action should be taken; that acting now is premature. Others will see the need to do something quickly. Realize that I am relating the situation as best I have it at press time. I do promise, however, to try and keep you informed.—The Editor

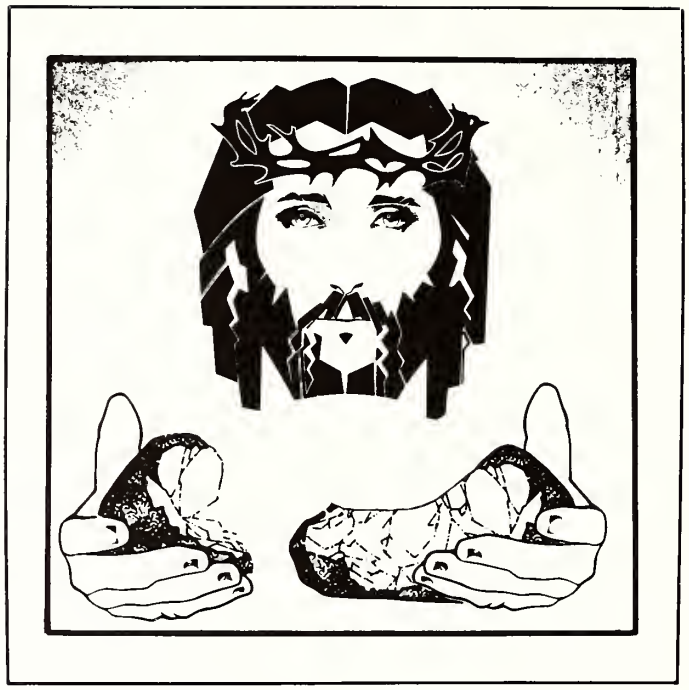
**ABOUT THE MOVIE**

"The Last Temptation of Christ," based on the book of Nikos Kazantzakis, was first begun by Paramount Pictures in 1983. However, after learning that the movie was being made, American Family Association urged supporters to begin writing and calling Paramount Pictures. Paramount, after investing $2,000,000 in the movie, dropped the project because of the calls and letters.

Universal picked up the picture in 1987. When AFA urged Christians to call and write Universal, the studio hired Tim Penland, a Christian consultant, to alleviate fears in the Christian community regarding the film. Mr. Penland approached Donald E. Wildmon, executive director of the AFA, in early 1988 saying that Universal had promised him that the movie would honor our Lord. Universal promised Wildmon that if AFA would not protest the film, they would allow him and a few other Christian leaders to screen the film in June and offer recommendations and suggestions. However, when the screening time came, Universal told Penland the film was not ready yet. Wildmon said that he would not protest the film if Universal would delay the release of the film in proportion to the time that the screening was delayed. Universal flatly refused to do this. (AFA later learned that the film was, indeed, at a point to be screened at that time.)

When Universal reneged on the agreement, Wildmon withdrew from the agreement. Penland cancelled his contract with Universal and has joined Wildmon and others in opposing the film.

(Turn the Page)



The movie shows Jesus to be a weak, vacillating traitor to the Jews; an adulterer; a sinner; but depicts Judas as a man of integrity. One Christian leader wrote Wildmon: "I cannot guess any reason for an author to write, or a company to produce this film except to blaspheme, and re-create Jesus and re-write the gospel into a confused, bawdy, bitter tangle that will deface and disguise the historical, biblical Jesus."

Another Christian leader wrote to Universal: "I am appalled that anyone would stoop so low as to write such a script and then for any film company to produce a movie completely degrading something so holy as the life of Jesus Christ."

AFA learned of a statement made by Sidney Sheinberg, president of MCA, the company which owns Universal, that Christians will not stop Universal from releasing the film. MCA is controlled by non-Christians. They see the film as a controversial one which will make them millions of dollars. Universal officials are willing to desecrate the life of Christ in order to make money.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

(1) You are urged to call Mr. Sheinberg and protest the film. You are urged to call person-to-person. His number is 818-777-1000. Refuse to speak with anyone other than Mr. Sheinberg. That way, if you fail to speak with him, the call doesn't cost you a penny. If you fail to get to speak directly with Mr. Sheinberg, leave a message asking him to return your call. If he fails to return your call, continue calling person-to-person until he or someone at Universal returns your call.

(2) You can protest the film by writing Mr. Lew Wasserman, Chairman, MCA, Inc., 100 Universal Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608.

(3) You can also reproduce and distribute the *Petition to Local Theatres Concerning the Last Temptation of Christ.* You can call your local theaters and ask them, out of respect to the Christians in your community, not to show the film in their theater.

(4) You can reproduce and distribute this *Script Sheet* in your church, Sunday School class, club, and other groups, and among your friends, neighbors, and family.

(5) You can boycott MCA, and encourage others to do the same. MCA owns Universal Pictures, Universal Studios in Hollywood (thousands of Christians take the tour of Universal Studios each year), MCA Music, Motown Records, MCA Development Company, MCA Publishing Company, MCA Television, Putnam Publishing Group, Berkley Publishing Corporation, Jove Publications, Coward-McCann Publishers, Grosset & Dunlap Publishers, G. P. Putnam's Sons publishers, Spencer Gifts, Universal Television, Universal Amphitheater, Womp's Restaurant Bar and Grill in Hollywood and Yosemite Park and Curry Company at Yosemite Park.

If you desire to keep informed concerning the film, you can write to the American Family Association, P.O. Drawer 2520, Tupelo, MS 38803.

## PETITION TO LOCAL THEATERS CONCERNING "THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST"

We understand that Universal Studios has produced a movie based on the novel *The Last Temptation of Christ* by Nikos Kazantzakis. According to the American Family Association, the film presents Jesus as a sinner, and a weak, unstable traitor to the Jews. Here are some of the scenes from the movie script.

Jesus says to Judas: "No, I don't have any pride. I don't go to synagogue. I disobey the commandments. I work on the Sabbath." Judas: "And who will pay for your sins?" Jesus: "I don't know. I'm struggling."

At the Last Supper, Jesus and His disciples' actions are described in this manner: "As they do (partake in the Last Supper), the bread and wine transubstantiate into flesh and blood in their mouths. Peter is the first to cough up the bloody flesh. The others, sickened, follow. They wipe their bloody mouths."

Mary says to the crowd: "Forgive my son! He's crazy! He doesn't know what He is doing. He has problems. Ever since He was a baby. He's not well in the head."

Jesus to Judas: "I was full of hate when I saw them torturing Magdalene."

John kisses Jesus on the mouth: "His tongue felt like a burning coal in my mouth."

Jesus teaching about discipleship: "Jesus reaches into His chest and pulls out His own bloody heart. He offers it at arm's length to the disciples. Blood drips from the ventricles. Jesus: 'This is my heart. Please take it. I lead the way. If you have sheep, give them away; if you have nets, let them rot; family, children, leave them behind. We're on the march.' Jesus places His heart back in His chest."

Mary to Jesus: "Son, please come home. I'll take care of you. You're sick (in the head) but I'll make you better."

Jesus to Mary as He is being crucified: "Farewell, Forgive me for being a bad son."

Jesus to Mary and Martha: "I now declare war on fasting and suffering and chastity."

Jesus says to Mary Magdalene: "I've done a lot of wrong things. I'm going to the desert to be cleansed. The worst things I've done are to you. Forgive me."

When pressed by a crowd of poor and sick asking Jesus to heal and cure them, Jesus says, "Get away. You sicken me. You're selfish and full of hate. God won't help you."

Talking to Judas, Jesus begs Judas to betray him. When Judas refuses, Jesus says: "You must. Don't abandon me now." Judas asks, "If you had to betray your master, would you do it?" Jesus answers: "No. I do not think I would be able to. That is why God pitied me and gave me the easier task: to be crucified."

The story has Jesus marrying Mary Magdalene and allowing His guardian angel to watch while Jesus and Magdalene engage in sex. According to the script, the guardian angel says to Jesus: "It's me. I wondered if I could watch [the couple engage in sex]? I'm lonely too." Jesus laughs and responds: "Yes, yes, Watch."

In other dialogue, Jesus tells Mary Magdalene, "Now I know: a woman is God's greatest work. And I worship you. God sleeps between your legs."

After Magdalene dies, Jesus moves in with Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, and has children by them. Only a brief description at the very end identifies His sexual relationships with Mary Magdalene, Mary and Martha as a dream.

We ask that you respect the Christians in this community and not schedule the movie in your theater.

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Reproduce and distribute this petition in your church, Sunday School class, clubs, among family and friends etc. When complete, mail to your local theater(s). Find local theater names and addresses in the Yellow Pages.

Sponsored by American Family Association, P.O. Drawer 2520, Tupelo, MS 38803. If you desire to stay informed concerning the film, you can write to the American Family Association, P.O. Drawer 2520, Tupelo, MS 38803.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DECLINING

Since 1970, Sunday Schools have lost nearly 14 million names from their enrollment lists, according to church-growth specialist Win Arn and the 34% decline has him worried. He said, "The prognosis for the Sunday School in America is not good."

Part of the problem is that fewer church members attend Sunday School. In 1970, 31% of the church members attended Sunday School and in 1986, that percentage had slipped to 18%.

Arn believes that this trend also helps explain why larger numbers of American children are missing out on religious training. Arn said, "(In 1970) Ten percent of the population said they received no religious training as a child and in 1987, 27% responded in the same way."

Arn noted that declining Sunday Schools can reverse this trend, by operating with a mission. He said, "The most important issue in moving a Sunday School forward in growth is a clear purpose that reflects the mission and priority of Christ."

No doubt one of the reasons for the decline is that practically nowhere in our media or educational process is Sunday School or church attendance presented as a norm.

### TEACHER WHO QUOTED BIBLE FIRED

A substitute teacher in Carbondale, Illinois, has become the focus of controversy for quoting Bible verses in a public school mathematics class. A father of two students recently attending Curtis Caldwell's class at Lincoln Junior High School has threatened to sue Caldwell and the school board over the teacher's use of Bible quotations in the classroom.

Represented by the Society of Separatists, also known as American Atheists, John Stivers alleges the quotations violated the First Amendment's guarantee of separation of church and state.

Caldwell's attorney, Ronald Isaacs, said that following complaints school board officials told Caldwell that he would not be called back to teach at least for the rest of the year and that in order to be called back at all, he would have to promise never to refer to God or paraphrase the Bible in class.

Isaacs, a member of the Christian Legal Society, said, "The laws says that for a teacher to be fired, what he is doing must substantially and materially affect his performance. There is no outright ban that you cannot mention God or the Scripture in the classroom."

Caldwell would not agree to refrain from biblical references as a condition for being rehired, so he was banned from the classroom.

### HOUSEHOLD PRODUCE LIKE HOUSEHOLDS

Daughters from female-headed households are much more likely than daughters from two-parent families to themselves become single parents and to rely on welfare for support as adults.

In a study conducted at the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin, Professor Sara S. McLanahan uncovered patterns of dependency. Reporting her findings in *Demography,* Dr. McLanahan observes that "living with a single mother at age 16 increases a daughter's risk of becoming a household head by 72% for whites and 100% for blacks." The contrast becomes even sharper if the comparison is between daughters continuously living in two-parent families with daughters living with an unmarried mother at any time between the ages of 12 and 16.

McLanahan said: "Exposure to single motherhood at some point during adolescence increases the risk (of a daughter later becoming a household head) by nearly one-and-a-half times for whites and . . . by about 100% for blacks."

The public costs of this differential emerge in figures showing that a daughter living in a single-parent household at any time during adolescence is far more likely (127% more likely among whites and 164% among blacks) to receive welfare benefits as an adult, compared to daughters from two-parent households.

Dr. McLanahan rejects the argument that the real issue in determining these outcomes is parental education and income, not family structure. Data on parental education and income can explain only 16% to 23% of the "family structure effect" for whites or blacks. Surprisingly, the observed effects cannot even be explained as a consequence of "parent absence" since a survey of the statistics shows that "living with a widowed mother is no different from living in a two-parent family for whites, and for blacks, the efforts of living with a widowed mother . . . are weaker than those of living with a divorced or separated mother."

### ONE-PARENT HOMES INCREASING

Nearly one American youngster in four lives with just one of his parents, according to a recent Census Bureau report. Moreover, the percentage of children living in one-parent homes has more than doubled since 1960.

According to Arlene Saluter of the bureau's Marriage and Family Statistics Branch, as many as 60% of today's children will spend at least some time in one-parent households. Divorce rates and the

growing number of unwed mothers have contributed to this change.

Most one-parent youngsters, 89%, live with their mothers. And it is more likely for Hispanic and black children to live in one-parent households than it is for white children.

**CHILD ABUSE INCREASING**

According to a Life Time poll, almost one out of five women suspects child abuse in a family she knows. The poll showed that, of 1,000 women, ages 18-54:

- 55% say they would call a social worker if they suspected a neighbor of child abuse; 6% wouldn't know whom to call and one percent would do nothing.
- 55% also said that they believe child abuse had increased in the past 20 years. That is supported by a 223% increase in reported cases between 1976 and 1986.
- 63% say young children should be taken from a parent who leaves them alone often.

If you suspect child abuse, says Deborah Daro of the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse, talk to the parents and express concern for them and their children. But if you feel a child is at immediate risk, you shouldn't hesitate to report it.

**STUDY SAYS KIDS CONDONE RAPE**

Nearly one-quarter of the boys and one-sixth of the girls responding to a survey on rape said it was acceptable for a man to force a woman to have sex with him if he had spent money on her.

The question was part of a survey of 1,700 sixth to ninth graders who attended the Rhode Island Rape Crisis Center's assault awareness program at schools across the state.

Jacqueline Jackson Kikuchi, the center staff member who conducted the poll, could hardly believe the results. She presented the findings at the National Symposium on Child Victimization in Anaheim, California.

Ms. Kikuchi said she was most surprised by the students' answers to whether it would be acceptable for a man to rape a woman if he had dated her for a long time or had spent money on her. She said, "Basically, the kids were very much into blaming the victim of the sexual assault."

Among the findings:



- 24% of the boys and 16% of the girls in grades seven through nine said it is acceptable for a man to force a woman to have sex with him if he has spent money on her.
- 50% of the students said a woman who walks alone at night and dresses seductively is asking to be raped.
- 51% of the boys and 41% of the girls said a man has the right to force a woman to kiss him if he has spent "a lot of money" on her. "A lot of money" was defined by 12-year-olds as $10 to $15.
- 65% of the boys and 47% of the girls in seventh through ninth grades said it is acceptable for a man to force a woman to have sex if they have been dating for more than six months.
- 87% of the boys and 79% of the girls said rape is okay if the couple is married.

Ms. Kikutchi said, "So many of our kids have attitudes that sexual abuse is okay." She said that the types of attitudes evidenced in the survey probably lead to date rape and other forms of sexual assault.

Finally, 20 percent of the girls and six percent of the boys taking the survey said they had been sexually abused.

# DON'T BURN OUT



*by Bass Mitchell*

"I just feel drained," Cathy told me as she sat down in my office.

"What's the problem?" I asked.

"I don't really know," she replied. "It's not that I don't love teaching . . . but that sense of excitement I had at the beginning isn't there anymore. And I used to look forward to the class each Sunday. Now, to be perfectly honest, I sometimes dread it!"

Cathy was experiencing what some call "burnout." She was tired of teaching. It had become more of a burden than a blessing to her. She had been teaching a preschool class for three years. On top of all of that, she was feeling guilty for feeling this way.

Does this sound familiar? Have you ever felt this way? Perhaps you're on the edge of it. What can you do? More importantly, how can you prevent burnout?

### Giving and Receiving

Teaching is an awesome task. It demands a great deal of time and energy every week.

You are a minister. You are engaged in a caring, loving, giving ministry. It can and should take a lot out of you.

But you can't keep giving without receiving. To keep ministering to others, you must be ministered unto. And you can be so into the giving part of teaching that you neglect the receiving part. Both must go together.

It's great all that you do for your class. You study hard. You attend training sessions. You're there and prepared each Sunday. But did you know that one of the best things you can do for your class and yourself is to stay in good spiritual shape?

Just as the proper food and rest are required for productive work in your occupation, proper spiritual food and rest are needed for effective teaching. Staying in good spiritual health prevents burnout.

Take a spiritual fitness check-up. Answer the questions below.

1. Do you spend time in prayer and personal Bible study on a regular basis?

2. Do you attend weekly worship services?

3. Do you often get together with fellow believers for fellowship and to study God's Word?

4. Do you regularly take a break from teaching your class?

### One Year at a Time

Remember that you are asked to teach only for one year at a time. Some teachers seem to think that it's a life sentence!

At the end of your year, you should have several options. You can continue teaching. You may take another class. Or you may sit out a year.

If you have already taught for two or three years, you probably should consider taking a year off, even if you do not feel close to burnout. Don't wait until you experience it to take action. Prevent it. Take a break. Then you will come back to it with even greater excitement and enthusiasm.

During that year, get back in your own class. Soak up the sharing, fellowship, and instruction in God's Word. Use this time to recharge your spiritual batteries.

Don't feel guilty about doing this. It's best for you and your class! Even Jesus needed some time away from it all. If He did, how much more you need it!

"But our Sunday School is small," you say. "We just don't have enough teachers."

That's noble of you to see this and feel this way. If this is the case, then you can still get the needed break. Let your assistant take over for a year and you be the assistant.

### The Assistant

Chances are you have an assistant teacher. Use your assistant on a regular basis. Once a month is a good standard.

This gives you a week off. It lets you attend your own class once a month. And it's good for your assistant. The assistant needs teaching experience.

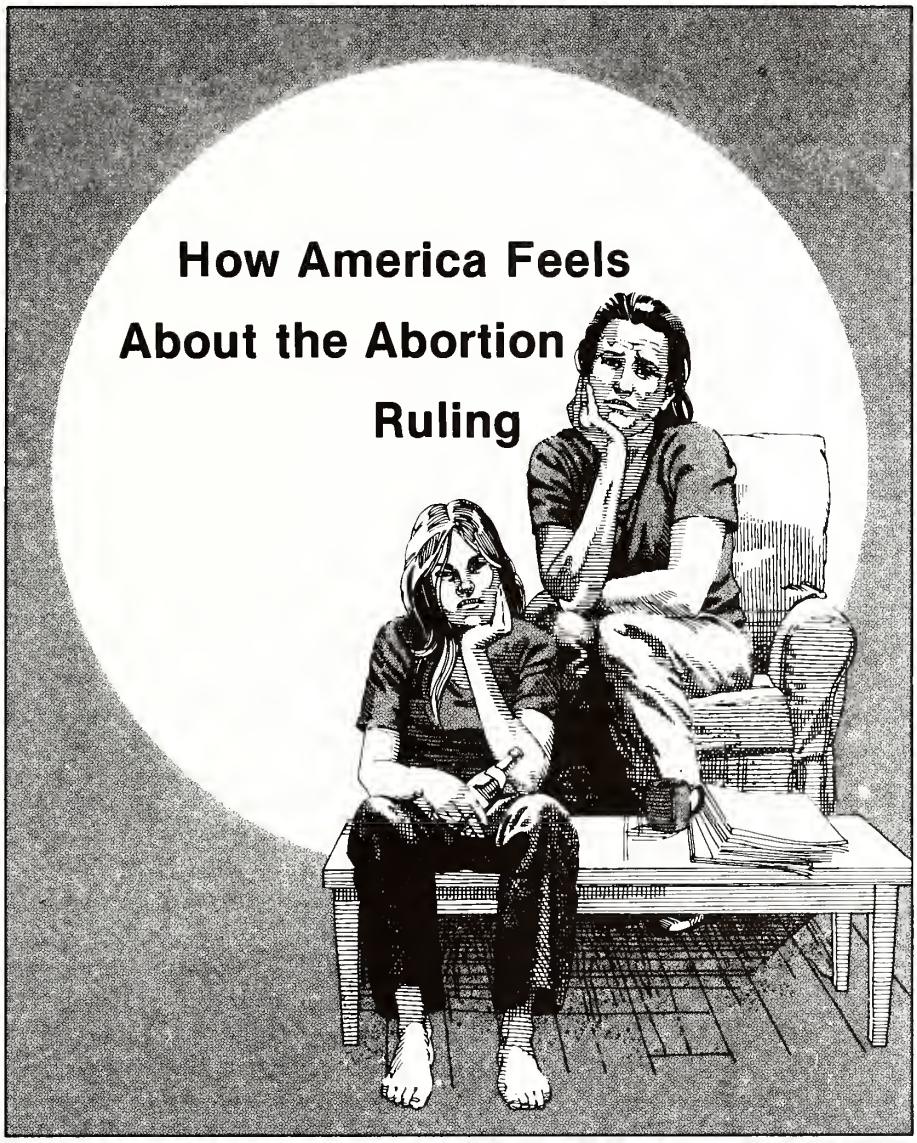
### Teaming Up

Many teachers have yet to discover the joy of team teaching. It's simply when two or more teachers plan, teach, and evaluate a class together. The teachers who have tried this would never go back to teaching alone!

You can see how this would prevent burnout. You share the responsibilities. You always have someone there to share the burdens and the blessings of teaching.

You should especially consider this if you teach children. Ever feel completely drained after teaching those active youngsters for forty-five minutes? What difference would it make to have another adult there helping you each Sunday?

You are a good teacher. You take it seriously. You give it your best. To continue to do that you have to take good spiritual care of yourself. When you get the proper spiritual nourishment and rest, you prevent burnout and help insure a fruitful teaching ministry.




# How America Feels About the Abortion Ruling

*by Stephen Chapman*

"Until you have children of your own, it's easy to ignore what an abortion is." The speaker is a young mother of two who, as a teenager, had an abortion. The memory does not rest easily on her conscience.

Not all women who have gone through abortions feel remorse. The feminist writer Barbara Ehrenreich once dramatized her moral depth by declaring that her only regret about having an abortion was the financial cost. But few Americans are so sanguine.

**An unsettled issue**

It has now been fifteen years since the U.S. Supreme Court, in one of the most stunning judicial verdicts in American history, leveled the laws of forty-four states in decreeing the constitutional right of American women to abortion on demand. Though the decision has endured, it has not settled the issue.

Far from it. Few Supreme Court decisions have done more to undermine its moral authority. Few have evoked such tenacious and broad-based political opposition. Few have produced so much criticism from members of the court itself. In a 1983 case, three dissenting justices argued that "the state's interest in protecting potential human life exists throughout pregnancy."

The main reason for the intensity of the fight over Judge Robert H. Bork's nomination was the prospect that his vote would be the one finally to overturn *Roe v. Wade*—as it might well have. Once-controversial rulings on school desegregation and suspects' rights are now a settled part of American life. But Roe still divides us.

"Pro-choice" groups blithely claim that abortion on demand has broad and deep support from the American people. But when the people's

(Turn the Page)

representatives in Congress have had the opportunity to express their view on the subject—in repeated votes on the Hyde Amendment to ban the use of federal funds to pay for abortions—the foes of abortion have won every time.

That reflects the profound ambivalence Americans feel. When a *New York Times*/CBS poll asked people if they favor a constitutional amendment banning abortions, 62 percent said no. When asked if they support a constitutional amendment protecting the lives of unborn children, 55 percent said yes.

More detailed questions yield more precise sentiments. A 1985 Gallup survey for *Newsweek* magazine found a solid 58 percent of those polled support a ban on "all abortions except in the case of rape, incest, or when the mother's life is endangered." In extreme cases, Americans accept abortions as the lesser of two evils. But they reject permitting it for just any reason.

**Resistance to fact**

One reason is that the reality of abortion has become clearer in the last fifteen years. In that time, there have been some 22 million legal abortions in this country. That is 22 million fetuses ripped apart with surgical instruments, or poisoned, or suffocated, or simply stripped from the indispensable sanctuary of their mothers' wombs. There have even been abortions which produced live babies. To avoid that, doctors who do late-term abortions have learned to kill the fetus before it emerges from the uterus.

It is not the fact of the operations but graphic descriptions of them that disgust the proponents of abortion. Such descriptions, besides being literally accurate, are made especially necessary by the antiseptic terms ("termination of pregnancy," and "woman's right to choose") the movement uses to obscure what is really happening. These are the kinds of things George Orwell had in mind when he said that political language "is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable."

The same resistance to fact was behind the outcry over a 1985 anti-abortion film, *"The Silent Scream,"* which asserted that a fetus being aborted feels pain. The film's claim was documented by medical evidence from reputable experts, but abortion's defenders denounced it as dangerous nonsense.

And when Illinois passed a law requiring abortionists to offer patients drugs to deaden any fetal pain, the American Civil Liberties Union sued successfully to prevent its enforcement. Nothing—not even a modest effort to minimize the suffering of abortion's victims—may be allowed to slow the speedy destruction of unwanted fetuses. To contemplate the possibility that fetuses feel pain while being aborted is to risk acknowledging their humanity. To acknowledge their humanity is to foster revulsion at the whole enterprise.

Judicial hubris made abortion commonplace in America, without making it morally acceptable to most Americans. Abortion proponents frame their arguments around the needs and rights of the pregnant woman. But the national conscience still has trouble overlooking the life that abortion destroys.

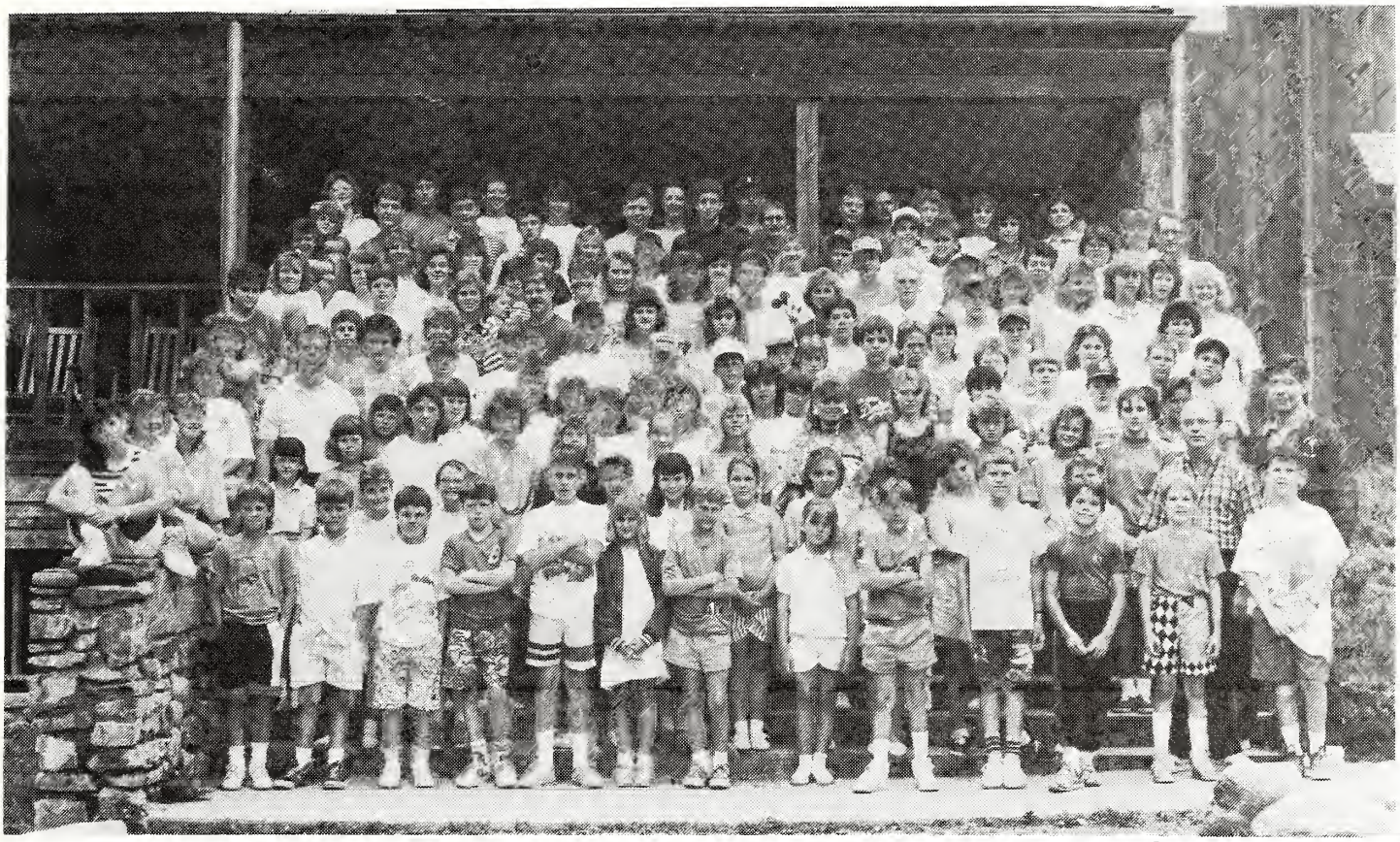
**ABORTIONS OUTNUMBER LIVE BIRTHS IN 18 U.S. METRO AREAS**

Abortions outnumbered live births in 18 metropolitan areas of the United States in 1980, the most recent year for which full statistics are available, according to data comparing abortions and live births. In an additional nine metropolitan areas, there were more than nine abortions for every ten live births.

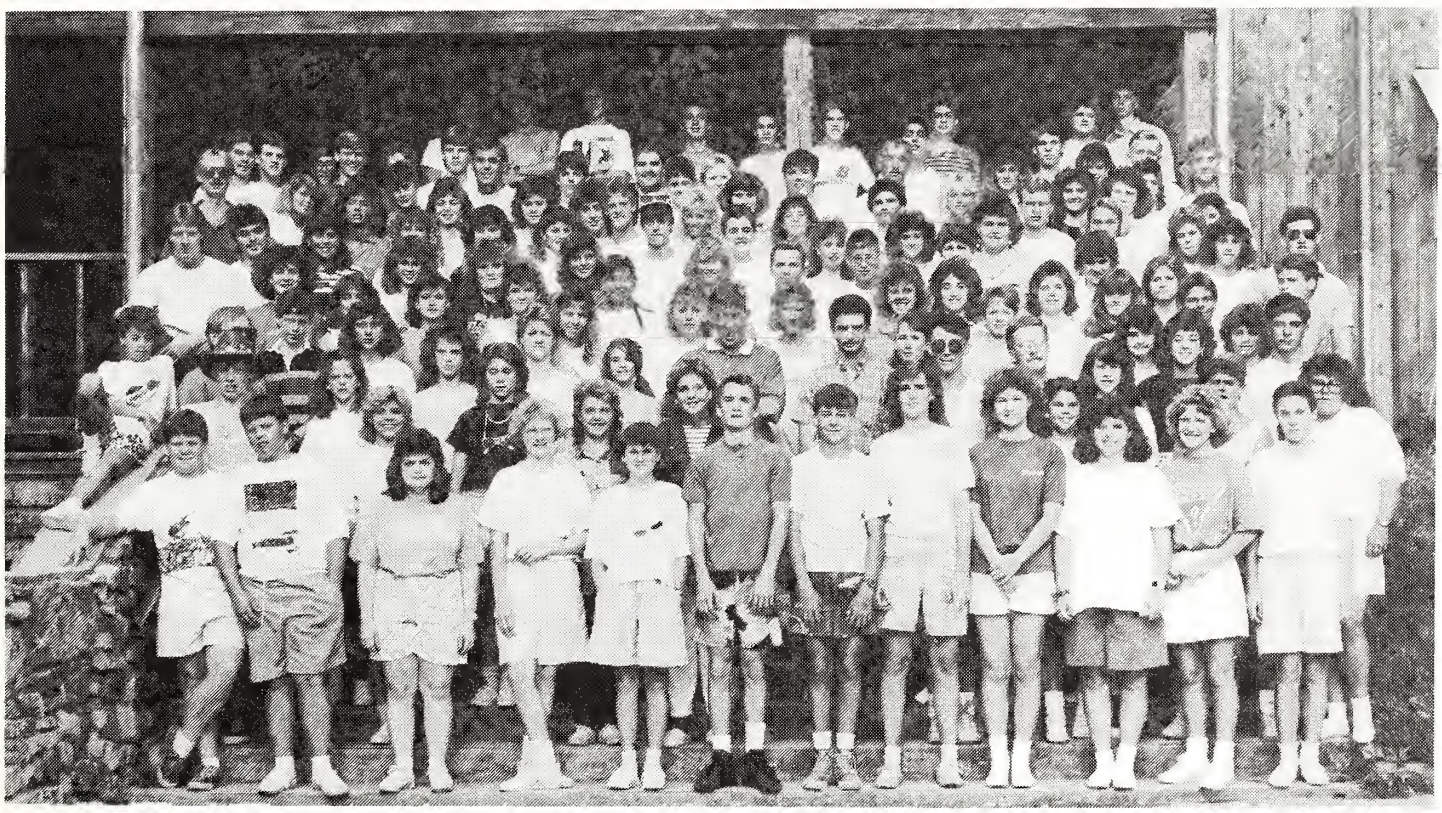
The abortion statistics were compiled by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, research agency for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. The live birth statistics are based on a report by the Natality Branch, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, for the standard metropolitan statistical areas of the United States. The 305 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA) in the country encompass a city plus the surrounding suburban areas.

**SMSA's where abortions outnumber live births**

| SMSA | Abortions | Live Births |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Atlantic City, NJ | 3,260 | 2,663 |
| 2. Burlington, VT | 2,020 | 1,621 |
| 3. Chico, CA | 2,350 | 2,046 |
| 4. Columbia, SC | 7,490 | 6,053 |
| 5. Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood, FL | 12,410 | 11,498 |
| 6. Grand Forks, ND-MN | 2,790 | 1,947 |
| 7. Harrisburg, PA | 7,670 | 6,011 |
| 8. Iowa City, IA | 3,370 | 1,276 |
| 9. Jacksonville, NC | 3,280 | 2,666 |
| 10. Madison, WI | 6,760 | 4,687 |
| 11. New York City, NY-NJ | 147,360 | 125,363 |
| 12. Raleigh-Durham, NC | 8,950 | 7,179 |
| 13. Reno, NV | 4,370 | 2,938 |
| 14. Richmond, VA | 10,450 | 9,167 |
| 15. Roanoke, VA | 3,780 | 2,853 |
| 16. San Francisco-Oakland, CA | 50,840 | 45,036 |
| 17. Sarasota, FL | 2,050 | 1,846 |
| 18. Seattle-Everett, WA | 23,990 | 23,404 |



Christian Cadet Conference



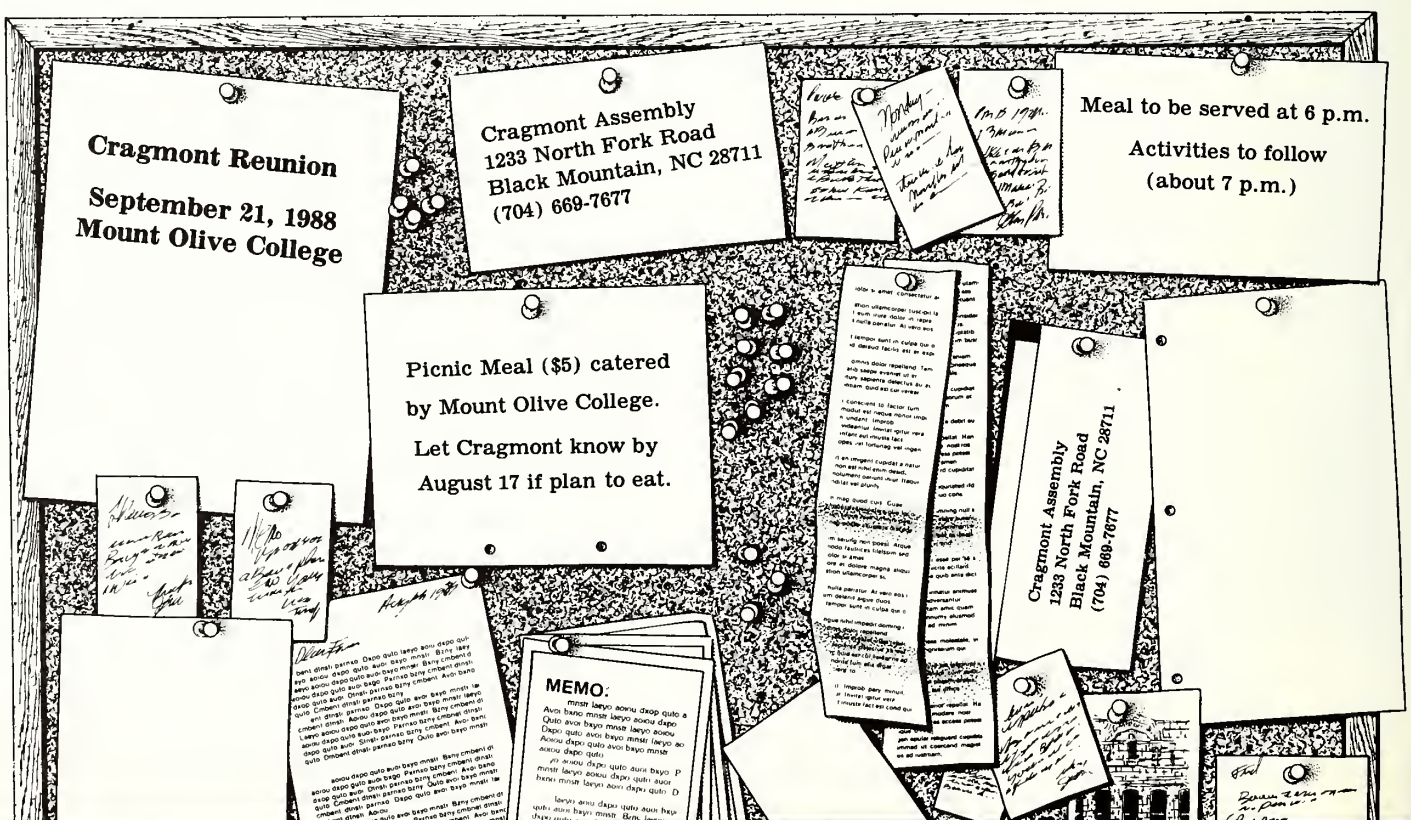
Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week

**AFC CONFERENCE AT CRAGMONT**
**JULY 4-9**
**"ALL WE LIKE SHEEP"**



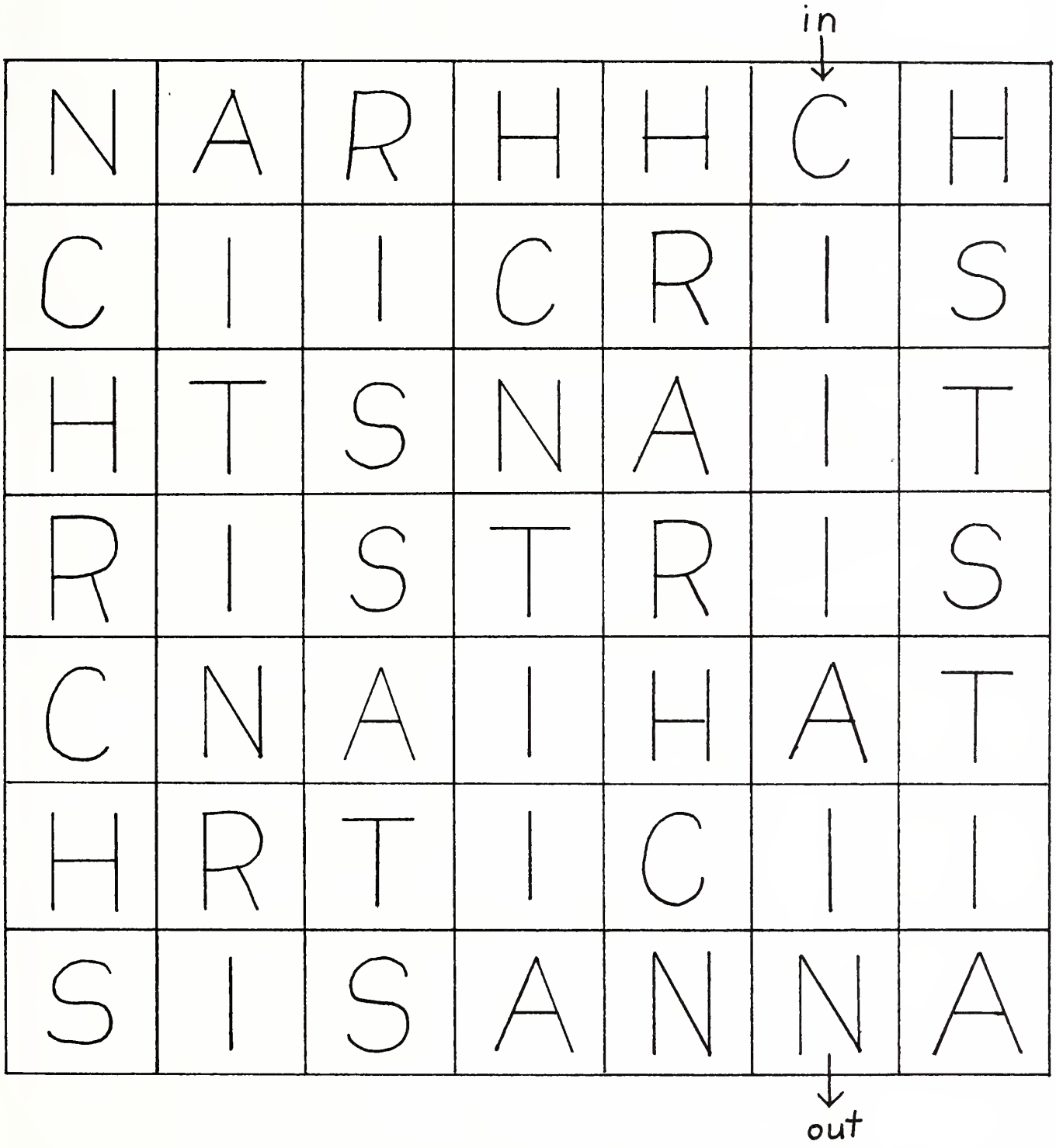
Of the 132 campers in attendance, at least 8 young lives made the decision to follow the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Congratulations to: Kelly King, from Westside Church, Female AFC Camper of the Year; Daniel Moreadith, from Antioch Church (New Bern), Male AFC Camper of the Year.

Many thanks to 17 of the most dedicated counselors in eastern North Carolina: Doug and Ginny Skinner, directors; Phil and Sheryll Wood, assistant directors; Joe and Cathy Ratcliff; Marlene Andrews, R.N.; Randy Beaman; Jeannie Beckerman; Patty Bennett; Allen Blount; Lora Hall; Calvin Heath; Sherry Jones; Alicia Purifoy; Renee Sullivan; Hulon Whitehead; and our Jr. Counselors: Stacey Burgess and Dustin Gaskins.



# MAZE SPELLING FUN

Go through the maze spelling out the word CHRISTIAN over and over again until you get out of the maze. You may go up or down, backwards or forwards, but you may *not* go diagonally. By the time you finish, you will have spelled CHRISTIAN five times!





1988 General Baptist Ministers' Conference at Cragmont

**MINISTERS' CONFERENCE AT CRAGMONT**
**JUNE 13-16, 1988**
**"TOGETHER IN CHRIST"**



Another great conference this summer: 100+ in attendance! Many thanks to the conference speakers: The Revs. Preston Smith, Marvin Waters, Ray Wells, Bobby Taylor, David Ricks, Fred Baker, and John Williams. Our theme was fulfilled as the ministers united together in prayer for each other and ministered to each other.

During the annual business session, new officers were elected with the Rev. Ray Wells being installed as the president. We express appreciation to the outgoing officers.



**MOC MOTHER AND DAUGHTER ENJOY LEARNING TOGETHER**

*by Kathy D. Bateman*
Director of Public Information, Mount Olive College

At a time when parents and children seem to disagree on many things, it's refreshing to find one subject many families agree upon: education.

Hazel Tyndall and her daughter Peggy, of Dudley, members of Piney Grove Church in Duplin County, are both Mount Olive College freshmen. Although they represent two different generations, they agree that no matter what age you are, a college education is something that you should not be without.

Mrs. Tyndall is typical of the adults appearing on the Mount Olive College campus in increasing numbers in the last few years. While the College's four-year accredited status can be linked to this increase, the most significant factor is that adults nationwide are returning to college and that trend is now in full-swing at Mount Olive College.

Twenty-six percent of MOC's on-campus students were 23 years old or older during Fall Semester, 1987. The Tyndalls, like many of these, have found it possible to hold jobs and continue their education at the same time.

Mrs. Tyndall is employed by Mount Olive College as supervisor of Eagles Nest Conference Center. At age 44, she decided to attend college part-time to further her career. "I realize that I may not always be able to do the physical work I'm presently engaged in and I feel that I need to prepare for the future," she said. Mrs. Tyndall wants to enter the accounting field at some point in her life.

Peggy Tyndall, age 20, decided to attend college at the encouragement of her mother. Peggy is interested in the advertising and communications fields. Her sister, Judy, who graduated from Mount Olive College last year, also played a big part in her decision to continue her education.

Working full-time and attending college require a person to be more productive, according to Mrs. Tyndall, but her children are a big help. "Mother always insists on cooking dinner," said Peggy, "but my sister Cathy and I try to help with the chores so Mother can study."

Mrs. Tyndall said there is far more to learn today due to the modern technological advancements of our society. "My first educational experience was in a two-room country school in Alderpoint, California, where we learned the three 'R's'—reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic. Look at all the subjects that are taught today."

Mother and daughter enjoy a good relationship and attending college together seems to have enhanced that relationship. "Some younger students are very immature and have trouble with their parents," said Peggy, "but my mother and I get along great."

"At a certain age you come to some mutual ground and become friends," said Mrs. Tyndall.

While she encourages young people to get a college education at an early age, Mrs. Tyndall complimented Mount Olive College students for their receptive attitude toward adult students. "Other students are very interested in how I am doing and have treated me like 'one of the gang,' " she replied.

"Mount Olive College serves an excellent purpose, especially for the student who doesn't wish to attend a larger university," said Mrs. Tyndall. "You receive individual attention, individual encouragement; and if you need to see an instructor or ask a question, you can be sure that they will make time for you. Mount Olive has a fine faculty and is a good, quality institution."

### MOC has much to offer Fall Semester students

Fall Semester at Mount Olive College officially begins Sunday, August 28, with a variety of degree programs available to new and continuing students.

(Turn the Page)

In addition to the majors already established, MOC will offer degree programs in accounting, biology, business management, English, fine arts, history and psychology.

This brings to thirteen the number of subject areas in which students can receive baccalaureate degrees at MOC. Other majors include business administration, church ministries, general studies, liberal arts, recreation and religion.

Classes will begin on Wednesday, August 31. The last day to enroll for the Fall Semester is Wednesday, September 7.

There is still time for new and transferring students to attend and limited financial aid is still available. Students are advised to begin planning for fall classes as soon as possible while a variety of options are open.

Activities planned during the opening week of college include the following:

Sunday, August 28—Freshmen move into dorms, take placement tests if needed, parents meet the advisors and other College personnel, families enjoy a picnic together.

Monday, August 29—New transfer students move on campus, Group Challenge Course is set at Eagles Nest and includes a picnic and vesper service to close the day.

Tuesday, August 30—Continuing students arrive on campus, late registration is conducted, students meet to discuss financial planning and work study.

Wednesday, August 31—First day of classes, evening students register, a social is held in the dorm area.

For more information regarding Fall Semester enrollment, contact Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).



**Free Will Baptist students take part in MOC orientation**—A group of Free Will Baptists who will be freshmen in the fall attended Mount Olive College's first 1988 Summer Orientation held June 23. During the session, freshmen met their advisors, took English and math placement tests, and pre-registered for fall classes. Another summer orientation is scheduled for Friday, August 5. Pictured, from left, (front row) are Tina Wetherington of Mosely's Creek Church in Craven County, Christie MaGuire of Pilgrim's Home Church in Jones County, Tonya Rowe of Kenly Church in Johnston County, Rhonda Toole of Yelverton's Grove Church in Johnston County; (back row), John Stilley of Saint's Delight Church in Pitt County, Jeff Grubbs of Hull Road Church in Greene County, Allan Willis of Davis Church in Carteret County, and Dean Jones of Mount Zion Church in Washington County. Visits to Mount Olive College may be arranged at anytime and Free Will Baptist students are eligible to receive $1500 yearly Free Will Baptist Tuition Grants to attend Mount Olive College (photo by Kathy Bateman).

## MOC APPOINTS NEW PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR



Sandra K. Phelps

Sandra K. Phelps of Greensboro has been appointed director of Public Information at Mount Olive College.

Miss Phelps fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Kathy D. Bateman. Mrs. Bateman's husband was transferred to Williams Air Force Base in Phoenix, Arizona.

Miss Phelps is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a bachelor of arts degree in communications. She received her associate of science degree at Mount Olive College and served as a public relations assistant at the College under Patti O'Donoghue. Miss Phelps completed a public relations internship with the United Arts Council of Greensboro in December.

MOC Vice President for Institutional Advancement Jimmy Wiliams said, "We feel fortunate to have Miss Phelps in this position and feel that her familiarity with the work of the public information office will be a tremendous asset to Mount Olive College."

## SHEKHUPURA SCHOOL BUILDING



Shekhupura School building and students

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

I am glad to report that 1988 is proving to be a year of blessings to us in many ways though there are adversities hovering over us.

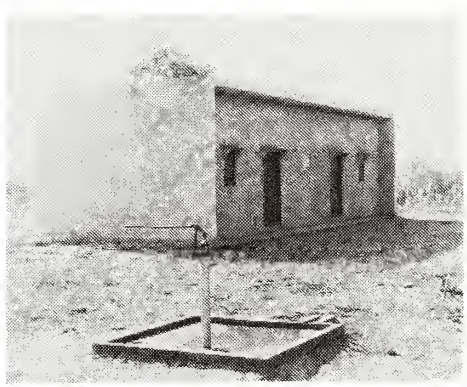
We are thankful to God and the Free Will Baptists in North Carolina for helping us in our work and encouraging us in all our endeavors. The Rev. Harold Jones, director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, was with us and has visited the open-air school of Shekhupura. He was greatly moved with the love of the inhabitants and had compassion to see the situation in which the children and the teachers were continuing as a school. Since I had the funds for one school building with us, I, in consultation with Mr. Jones, constructed the school building at Shekhupura which is now ready for use. The inaugural ceremony was held on Thursday, March 10, 1988.

This school is exceptionally good so far as the quality of teaching and discipline is concerned. The head teacher, Bhikam Singh, is a dedicated person and it is through his labor and effort that this school has an enrollment of 78 children. This school became a state-wide recognized institution in July, 1988.

We request that this school be kept in your prayers so that it may help people know of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### SPECIAL NOTE

Dear Friends, we need 15 more school/church buildings just to meet the present needs. At the present, all construction has stopped because we have exhausted all funds received for this project. Surely there are churches that can provide the cost for one of these buildings. Please contact the Board of Foreign Missions, Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513; or call (919) 746-4963 for details.



A side view of the Shekhupura School.



Willem and Lydia van der Plas, now Free Will Baptist missionaries in the Philippines, took time out for a picture before saying goodbye to son Dirk, friends at Mount Olive College and members of the Free Will Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. van der Plas served as apartment residence directors while part-time students at the College. Dirk, who attended classes full-time, will remain at MOC and continue performing with the Mount Olive College Singers. Pictured, from left, are the Rev. Ed Miles, pastor at Long Ridge Church in Duplin County; the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College; Dirk, Willem and Lydia van der Plas; and the Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor at Arapahoe Church in Pamlico County. Friends wishing to contact the van der Plas' may write them at P. O. Box 98, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines 5300. All letters should be sent by airmail (photo by Kathy Bateman).

## COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

**Summer Orientation** **Friday, August 5**

Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. All incoming freshmen who have not attended a previous orientation session should be present. During the session freshmen will meet their advisors, take English and math placement tests and pre-register for fall classes. Contact Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions for further information.

**Ministers' Institute** **Monday-Tuesday, August 8-9**

Begins Monday morning at 9 in College Hall. This Institute is offered as a service to ministers by Mount Olive College. The program is sponsored jointly by the College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

**Fall Semester Classes** **Begin Wednesday, August 31**

Applications are being accepted for new and transfer students and limited financial aid is still available. Contact the Admissions Office for a course schedule and further details.

**For More Information on These Events**

Contact Mrs. Dianne B. Riley or Frank R. Harrison, Henderson Building, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephone: (919) 658-2502.

## SUMMER MEANS GRADUATION AT THE FWB CHILDREN'S HOME

*by Gwen Williams*

School is out! Kindergarteners and sixth graders at Middlesex Elementary School sure have something to cheer about these days. On Friday, June 10, 1988, a graduation ceremony was combined with an annual awards day. This meant promotion to the next grade level for these youngsters (first grade for kindergarteners, seventh grade for sixth graders).

Those in kindergarten led the processional into the gym, followed by the sixth graders, while parents, teachers, friends, and the student body looked on.

Entertainment was provided by the students through the singing of various songs. Students were recognized through the presentation of certificates. Some of our very own were among those recognized.

Michelle and Eugene received certificates of promotion to junior high school. Michelle also received the Principal's Award for her outstanding attitude and conduct.

Timmy received an award for academic achievement in the areas of math and English and Rebekah received the award for being most artistic.

Trina was a member of the 1988 graduating class at Southern Nash Senior High School. Graduation was held on Friday, June 10. She will attend St. Augustine College next fall.

Mike also attended the senior high school and will be completing his high school diploma while continuing his education at Central Virginia Community College.

We congratulate our young people on their accomplishments during the school year and extend to them best wishes for a safe and happy summer.

## WHITLEY CENTER
### Construction Has Begun



The dream of a physical education building on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is in the process of coming true.

This dream began in the hearts and minds of the Board of Directors around twenty years ago. The goal of providing quality child care required developing the mind, soul, and the body of children.

The Home has always met the basic needs of the children in care: food, clothing, a roof, and a religious atmosphere in which to live and worship.

As times change, needs change. The Home has made significant changes since the first child entered residential care on May 23, 1920. However, the goal of providing the best child care available has never changed.

We must require high standards if we are to meet the challenge of this goal. The addition of Whitley Center will increase the quality of child care we provide and help us meet this goal.

Some questions asked about Whitley Center include:

**1. Why does the Children's Home need a gym?**

This question is answered above. Another answer is that our children have no place for structured physical education, organized competition, group exercise and a place to play during cold and rainy weather.

According to a 1982 study conducted by Group Child Care Consultant Services from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, "The only addition to the physical plant which may be needed in the future is space for active, indoor activities—a gymnasium-type building."

A physical education building is vital for the complete development of a child into an adult.

**2. Why is it named Whitley Center?**

Whitley Center was agreed upon as an appropriate name because it reflects our heritage. The first children to enter our care were Carl, Dorothy, Helen, and Nellie Whitley.

**3. What size is Whitley Center?**

The total dimensions are 60' x 113', including a 60' x 100' open area for organized play, 12' x 20' multi-purpose room, 12' x 18' storage room and restrooms.

**4. When will it be completed?**

The scheduled completion date is September 1, 1988.

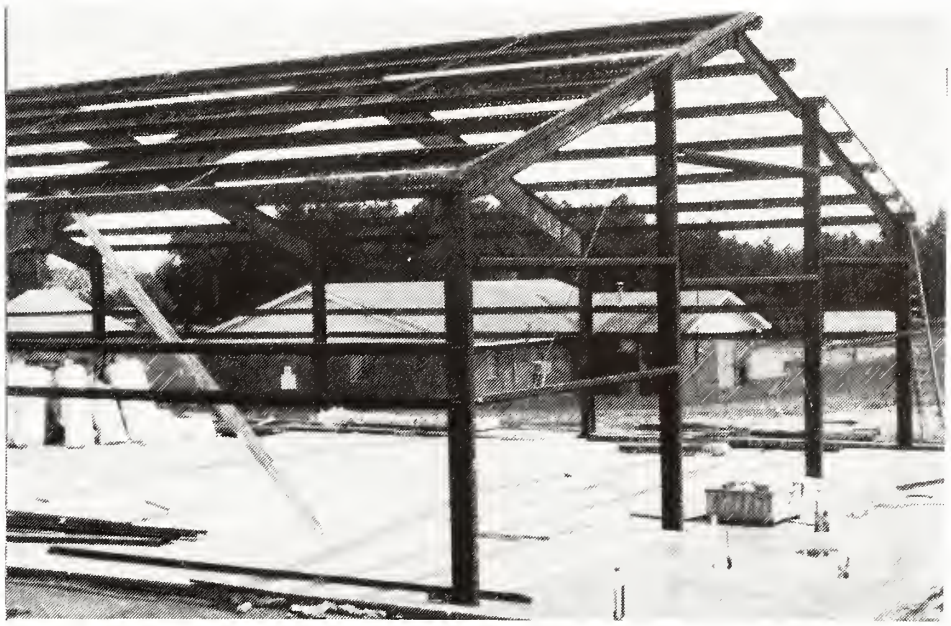
**5. What is the cost of the building?**

The total cost of the building will be $115,850. At this time, half of the cost of the building has been received through gifts and pledges.

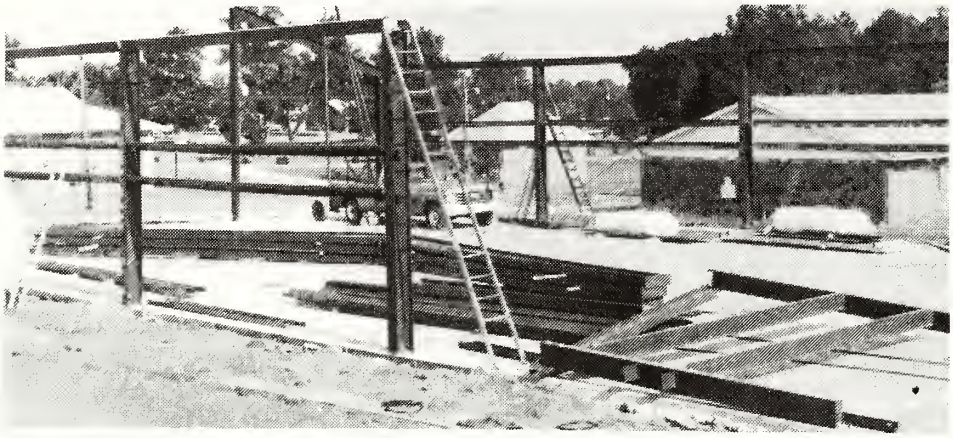
**6. Where is Whitley Center located?**

It is located behind Heritage Hall, formerly the Dining Hall.

If you have questions that are not answered here, call or write the Children's Home.



## FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME RECEIVES $20,000 DUKE ENDOWMENT GRANT



Free Will Baptist Children's Home has received a grant of $20,000 from the Duke Endowment to help fund construction of a new activities building.

Bobby R. Taylor, executive director of the Home, said: "This is the first major building addition we've had in over ten years. We have needed a place for our children to have recreation activities in bad weather, but we haven't been able to provide it. Now, thanks to the Duke Endowment and many other generous contributors, we can move ahead with this much-needed facility."

Plans for the $116,000 project call for construction of a 6,800-square-foot building equipped with a basketball court, a multi-purpose room and restrooms.

Free Will Baptist Children's Home provides residential group care for up to 42 children in four cottages as well as a program for foster family care.

Ashley H. Gale Jr., director of the Endowment Hospital and Child Care Divisions, said: "We are pleased to join with many other donors to help the Children's Home with their activities building. We hope that our gift will encourage other donations, so that this project can be successfully completed."

Since 1925, the Duke Endowment has awarded over $560,000 to Free Will Baptist Children's Home for both operating and program support.

Founding in 1924 by North Carolina industrialist James Buchanan Duke, the Endowment is one of the nation's largest private foundations. Its assets total approximately $800 million. The Endowment provides assistance to not-for-profit hospitals and child-care institutions in North and South Carolina; to rural United Methodist Churches and retired ministers in North Carolina; and to Davidson College, Duke, Furman, and Johnson C. Smith Universities.

In 1987, the Endowment approved grants of nearly $41 million.

Awards since 1924 total over $825 million.

### BACK TO SCHOOL

It seems like only yesterday we were counting the days until school was out for summer vacation. Now we are counting the days until school starts again.

We began August 1 getting our children thinking about school again.

Thinking about going back to school reminds us that we must go shopping for school clothes and supplies. Our children love to go shopping, especially if they are old enough to choose their own clothes and supplies.

We do everything possible to get the lowest possible price for the items we must purchase, but our children need your help to go back to school.

We would like to give you the opportunity to help a child receive an education and have a successful school year. You may share a gift to the Children's Home School Fund or puchase the supplies and bring them to the Home yourself. Whichever way you choose, make an investment in the future of a child.

### GROUP CARE RESOURCES FAIR

*by Gwen Williams*

Helen Keevert, director of child care, Wayne Gordon, unit coordinator, and Gwen Williams, social worker, represented the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at the Group Resource Fair held in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Wednesday, June 1, 1988.

The focus of the fair was to make the community and surrounding counties aware of placement resources that are available for youth. Agencies across the state participated by invitation of Wake County Department of Social Services.

Each agency was designated space to set up a booth. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home display consisted of pamphlets, brochures, and pictures of the campus and residents. Our representatives were available to share and talk with interested community persons (school personnel, mental health professionals, court counselors and social work staff from various counties' department of social




services) about valuable information such as:

1. The type of facility we operate
2. Admission procedures
3. Minimum age of children admitted
4. Length of time a child remains in care, short or long term
5. Number of children in care
6. Number of cottages
7. Preparation for Independent Living program available on campus.

The turnout was great and we believe that everyone received very useful information. This will become an annual event coordinated by the Wake County Department of Social Services.

## "TOUCHING LIVES FOR A LIFETIME"
### Using Our Gifts in Serving

*by Bruce Jones*

In 1984, the Executive Committee of our State Convention proposed to establish a program of growth from 1985-1990. They requested that each denominational enterprise or institution establish five-year goals and send them to the Executive Committee.

The number one goal for the Home Missions and Evangelism program was **EVANGELISM.** Evangelism is still our number one goal, and North Carolina and America are our mission field. The problem is most Free Will Baptists don't see themselves as home missionaries; therefore, they do no witnessing. Witnessing, or soul winning, is vital to the success of our denomination and each of our denominational enterprises. The College needs money. The Children's Home needs money. Foreign Missions needs money. Cragmont needs money. The Retirement Homes needs money. I find in Matthew 17:27 that when the disciples needed money to pay tribute with, Jesus sent them fishing, and the first fish had the money in its mouth. Jesus said, "Follow me and I will make you to become fishers of men." If we would obey the command of Jesus and win the lost we would have ample resources to meet the needs of each denominational enterprise. When God saves a man, I believe He gets his wallet too, but we're not out to win wallets, we're out to win souls.

Too many of our people are saying, "I don't have the gift for witnessing, or soul-winning." Witnessing is not a gift. It is a command found in Matthew 28: 19-20 given by Jesus to all of us that are saved. We do find in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 some spiritual gifts that God distributes to believers to aid them in winning the lost. Too often more emphasis is placed on the gift than on winning the lost.

In Genesis 24, we find a very beautiful picture of the Christian winning the lost. Abraham had given his eldest servant a command to go get Isaac, his son, a bride. He gave him earrings and bracelets as gifts to aid him in getting that bride, but his primary objective was to get a bride. He would not get a bride bragging on the gifts, but he would if he bragged on Isaac, the bridegroom. God has sent us into the world to get His son a bride. He has endowed us with gifts, but we will only get a bride if we brag on the Bridegroom. The spirit within our churches would be different if we spent our time witnessing, out bragging on our Bridegroom.

Dr. Curtis Hutson, when pastoring the Forest Hills Baptist Church of Decatur, Georgia, had the opportunity to go coon hunting one night with his son and men of the neighborhood. Dr. Hudson said he had never been coon hunting before, and was amazed at how all those dogs worked together running that coon. He said, each dog's bark was different and each owner knew his dog's bark. He said when the hunt was over and all those dogs were crammed into the dog box for the trip back home, they began to growl at each other and wound up fighting before they got home. He said something to his son about the dogs fighting and his son said,

(Turn the Page)

"Dad, those dogs were not made to be crammed into a dog box. They were made to run coon." Dr. Hudson said, "Christians are very much like those coon dogs. We were not made just to be crammed into the church all the time. We were made to run lost people, and catch them for the Lord."

Won't you take the gift God has given to you and help us to continue to Touch Lives for a Lifetime?

## FOLKSTONE CHURCH PENNY DRIVE ASSISTS HOME MISSIONS PROGRAM





The Rev. Ronnie Parker, pastor of Folkstone Church, and Winston Everette display the collected change.



The children of the church give so that lives may be touched for a lifetime.



The church youth and adults gathered together after church to roll their contribution.



SIDNEY CHURCH, located 6 miles south of Belhaven, recently honored the Rev. Raymond L. Lagcher and his family during special services held at the church.

From October, 1987, through June, 1988, Mr. Lagcher served Sidney Church as supply pastor and helped the church initiate several projects which include the development of a tape ministry, a van ministry (which averages 15 youths per Sunday), a youth church (which averages 30 five to eleven-year olds per Sunday), a building project which saw the expansion of the church nursery, and an increase in Sunday School enrollment of 15 percent.

Sidney Church honored Mr. Lagcher, his wife Ginger, and their son Timothy by the awarding of a plaque and by providing them a covered-dish dinner following the morning worship services on June 26, 1988.

The church is overjoyed with the dedicated ministry Mr. Lagcher provided and would recommend him to any church in need of supply ministry.

Mr. Lagcher will continue to serve in the supply pastor ministry as the Lord leads.

THE CAPE FEAR UNION MEETING convened with Daly's Chapel Church May 21, 1988. The Rev. Hubert Stanley, moderator, presided at the meeting. The meeting opened with the congregation singing "Stand Up for Jesus," led by Peyton Lee.

The Rev. Clifford Ball, host pastor, brought the morning devotions from Matthew 5:1-12, the Sermon on the Mount, along with prayer and a warm welcome to Daly's Chapel. Peyton Lee responded to the welcome.

The secretary called the roll of officers, ministers and licensed ministers. The Revs. Roger Heath, Eastern Conference, and Phillip Boykin, pastor of Lee's Chapel Church, were recognized. Mr. Boykin requested to be affiliated with the Cape Fear Union. Motion carried to accept him into the Union.

The minutes from the last Union were read and adopted, followed with roll call of churches. The moderator appointed the following committees.

Finance—James Stanley and John Bryant to serve with Mr. Hinson.

Election of Officers—Dean Kennedy, Jeff Scarborough and Dewey Boling.

Ushers for the day—Johnny and Mark Johnson.

Denominational Enterprises were represented as follows:

Home Missions—Dean Kennedy

Ministers' Program—Jeff Scarborough

Children's Home—Jeff Daughtry

Foreign Missions—Edmundo Gonzales

Mount Olive College—Al Warrick

Retirement Homes—Peyton Lee

Cape Fear Ministers Association—Ken Hardison

(Turn the Page)

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PERIODICALS

DURHAM NC 27706

We began the morning worship service by singing "Glory to His Name," followed with special music rendered by the host church.

The Rev. Mike Ledbetter brought the Union message. His Scripture was Ezekiel 22:23-30, "I Sought for a Man."

Following the message a short business session was held. The treasurer's report was given and adopted. **Motion made and carried that the date of the Union be changed back to the Saturday before the fifth Sunday** (seems to be too much confusion and attendance is about the same). **This will be in effect for the Union meeting October 29, 1988.**

### CBS 'MIGHTY MOUSE' SNIFFING COCAINE?

CBS should apologize to the public and fire the two people responsible for showing Mighty Mouse sniffing what appeared to be cocaine on the Saturday morning cartoon April 23, says AFA executive director Don Wildmon.

In "The Littlest Tramp" episode of MIGHTY MOUSE: THE NEW ADVENTURE, the cartoon hero is shown reclining beside a campfire listening to tales told by friends. He is feeling dejected because the girl he loves does not return the affection. Then without warning, the hero makes reference to the girl and quickly draws a handful of powder from under his cloak and inhales it through his nostrils.

Philip Morris/General Foods and RJR Nabisco, two companies which helped sponsor this Mighty Mouse drug sniffing cartoon, are the leading advertisers in the porn magazines *Playboy* and *Penthouse* which have for years promoted drug use.

### AVAILABLE FOR SUPPLY WORK

The Rev. Raymond Lagcher wishes to announce that he is available for supply work. Churches interested in his services can contact him by writing to him at Box 146, Pinetown, NC 27865; or by phoning 927-4439.

DALLAS HOLM is coming to your area to perform in concert. This last year has been a year of change for Dallas, and a particularly difficult year in facing his wife's cancer and subsequent recovery.

A listing of the concerts follows. Rather than ticketing them, they will be done on a free will offering/donation basis.

Dallas is now performing solo concerts, which has allowed him to be more flexible in his concert format. You are probably aware that he has a new album out entitled "Beyond the Curtain." It is his best album yet. Stylistically, it is a return to his ballad type songs for which he is most popular. He will be performing both new songs and old at the concert.

**CONCERT ITINERARY**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9/11/88 | **Greensboro, North Carolina**<br>War Memorial Auditorium | 2:30 pm | Roy Morgan<br>Morgan & Associates<br>919/887-8288 |
| 9/12/88 | **New Bern, North Carolina**<br>New Bern High School Football Field | 7:30 pm | Donnie Sydnor<br>WLOJ Radio<br>919/633-1144 |
| 9/13/88 | **Durham, North Carolina**<br>Living Waters Church | 7:30 pm | Pastor Larry Queen<br>919/596-6909 |
| 9/14/88 | **Charlotte, North Carolina**<br>East Coast Bible College | 8:00 pm | Dr. Sammy Oxendine<br>East Coast Bible College<br>704/394-2307 |

For further information contact Marcha Coursey, Praise Ministries, or the contact(s) listed above.



Div. Sch.

Divinity School Library



GIFTS FOR SERVICE

# The Free Will Baptist

September, 1988

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

September, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 9

3 Editorial Comment

5 Convention '88

11 Missions Trip Provides New Insights

13 Blessings From God Through Trials

14 For Parents and Other Human Beings

16 Youth Focus

17 Children's Corner

18 The Christian Teacher

20 Ministries Update

31 News Briefs

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; James Billy Hardee, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Marice DeBruhl, De Wayne Eakes, Darrell Horne, Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

# Consider the Facts:

## LEARNING SERVANTHOOD

I will never forget Lee. Often she would call out, "Get Janie. She'll know what I want. She'll know what to do." For some reason I had gained her confidence. She had captured my heart. Lee is a widow. Her husband passed away last fall. Before his death, he had done all he could to make life comfortable for the two of them.

Lee lives in Brownsville, Tennessee, an area where poverty runs rampant. Twenty percent of the population cannot read or write. Unemployment figures are among the highest in all of Tennessee. Lee worked up until several years ago when her health made it impossible for her to do so. Her life has changed somewhat because of her physical condition; she spends her days now caring for her mother, a victim of Altzheimer's Disease.

No, I will never forget Lee; I will never forget her calling me into her house and asking that I watch the young people for a while. She was tired and needed to rest. She had been up too long and needed to remove her prostheses. You see, Lee is a double amputee, having both legs removed from the knees down because of her battle with diabetes. Bitterness has no place in Lee's life. She is just thankful to be alive.

I met Lee in late July while taking part in a workcamp experience. She was "my resident." For a week our lives "touched." While our backgrounds, resources, and experiences differ, many of our beliefs

(Turn the Page)



and dreams are the same. She doesn't ask much of life or people. She merely wants to be able to worship her God, have enough food and money to meet her needs, and to be able to help others. How ironic!

One might ask how can someone in Lee's position help others. How can someone who can barely walk make a difference? What can she do? Can she really impact her world? How naive we are.

For some reason, we think that caring requires great resources. All that is demanded, however, is a willingness to give one's self to others. This often makes us vulnerable and vulnerability can place us in situations we consider uncomfortable.

Quite often humility is one of those characteristics found lacking in the Christian's demeanor. We find it too easy to point out all of our accomplishments. We believe that for some reason or another others owe us. Just because our Lord suffered doesn't mean we are willing, right? Besides, we are Americans. Everything is to be given to us! Well, modern philosophies have made us feel as though we are the center of our universe—and as long as we are Number One, there is little or no room for God, much less His will.

Once we move beyond ourselves and realize we are not all that important, it will be easier for us to see people. Stop and think. We all know those who are hurting, those who are lonely, those who have needs. And just what are we doing about those needs? Do we offer to keep children for those parents who are facing turmoil? Do we offer to just sit with the lonely and grieving individual? Do we visit the nursing home at times other than at Christmas? If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit we fail so often.

Sometimes we do not reach out because we do not know how. Sometimes it is because we feel inadequate. At times such as this, we need to consider the situation at hand. What needs exist? What gifts, abilities, or skills do we have that are needed? What needs can we help meet? Perhaps we can step in and handle it all. Then again, we may not be able to remedy anything; but we may know someone who can. Remember, too, that no matter how grave a situation appears, we can always pray. (Many ministers are burdened and struggling today because folks had rather push them down and talk about them than lift them before God's throne in prayer.)

The real problem comes in when we often just don't care what another person is facing. Since his plight is not our own, we had rather not even think about him. This bothers me terribly. With sentiments like this, it is no wonder our churches are in the shape they are in. Because we do not care that those without Christ will die and go to Hell, we do not share the gospel. Because we might be inconvenienced, we fail to lift a hand to help, or lend a shoulder upon which someone can cry. Because we feel others have not done something for us, we do not help them. Because we may not get some recognition, we believe helping to be of little or no benefit. Because someone made a mistake once, we refuse to help make their life better.

Then there are those who can't decide who should be helped. Do we help those here or those over there? While we argue over the question, we do nothing—no one is helped. Our opinions cross with those who differ with us and feelings are hurt. The cause of Christ suffers while those who are young in the faith really wonder why all this confusion exists. They wonder if this is what true Christian love is and decide that if it is, they want no part of it. This scenario provides unbelievers with all the ammunition they are looking—for they believe the church is filled with hypocrites anyway.

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has challenged us all to be servants. They have asked that we accept Christ's admonition and be servants of all. In particular, we are to consider our gifts for service this year.

Now be realistic: The Executive Committee and Convention can set up all the programs they want to. Our ministers can challenge us to ever be Christlike. But until you and I care, nothing will change. Until you and I accept our responsibilities, the Christian cause will not advance as it should. Until you and I decide to look beyond ourselves, the needs of others may not be met.

Will we use our gifts?

Will we be the people God has called us to be?

Will the Original Free Will Baptist cause strengthen and grow?

The answers to these questions rest with you and me.

I have learned much about the needs of others. Thank you, Lee.



# Convention '88

*by the Rev. De Eakes*
*President, North Carolina State Convention*

Convention time is here for the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. We are anticipating an excellent Convention, with record-breaking attendance from all seven of our member conferences. We have had confirmation from our speakers. We will have several fraternal delegates to extend greetings to our Convention. Our ministry and auxiliary programs will be sharing important information regarding their work. We have several excellent musical selections scheduled for the Convention. Our music leadership will be provided by the Rev. Grady Tucker. Mrs. Alma Buck and Mrs. Pat Arthur will be our pianists for the Convention.

Our Seventy-sixth Annual Convention begins on Tuesday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m., with our Annual Evangelism Rally. Our Home Missions/Evangelism Board plans and promotes this Rally each year. The speaker is the Rev. T. O. Terry (Eastern Conference). The Marsh Swamp Handbell Choir (they are excellent), the Bethlehem Church Choir, and singers from Verona Church will provide special music. This service will be held in Rodgers Chapel—parking will be on the grass behind the Chapel.

On Wednesday, September 14, there will be a prayer breakfast at 7 a.m. Convention officers, board chairpersons, ministry heads, program personnel and other invited persons attend. Attention is given to specific prayer needs of our Convention and ministry programs. The first day of the Convention will be called to order by the secretary, Mr. G. C. Bryan, at 9 a.m. The Rev. John Williams will bring the message and we will adjourn at about 3:30 p.m. until 9 a.m. on Thursday.

The Missions Rally will be held on Wednesday evening at 7:30. The location will be College Hall. The Foreign Missions Board will be in charge of the Missions Rally. The Rev. Fred Baker, Linda, Kim and Stevie are home on furlough from the Philippines. Fred will be the keynote speaker for the Rally. We trust that all of our ministers, delegates and many, many of the Original Free Will Baptist laity will take part in our Missions Rally. The Annual Missions Rally is always a highlight of our Convention! We trust that this year will be the same! The offering received at the Annual Missions Rally is for both Foreign and Home Missions. Churches and individuals are asked to give special offerings at the Rally. You are reminded to mark your offerings as you wish for Home and/or Foreign Missions. All undesignated offerings will be equally divided between the two mission ministries. Bring your car, van or bus load to the Missions Rally! It will be an inspiring experience for all who attend!

The second day of our Annual Convention, Thursday, September 15, will open at 9 a.m., with singing, appropriate devotions and special music. On Thursday, we will conclude our ministry and auxiliary reports, finish our Convention's business session and receive the reports of our appointed committees. The second day of our Convention is traditionally the lower of the two days in attendance. Both days of our Convention sessions are equally important. It is important that ministers and delegates attend *both days* of the Convention. The Rev. W. S. Burns will bring the message on Thursday.

We trust that the '88 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be a great Convention! We believe that it will be great! Your presence and participation in the Convention will make it better! It is our goal and dream to have every Original Free Will Baptist Church affiliated with our Convention report to the Convention. It would be wonderful to have all churches represented by delegates and minister but it would be a historical event if all of our churches were represented by either delegate or letter.

The theme of our 76th Convention is "Gifts for Service!" What are your special gifts as a servant of the Lord? What special gifts or ministries does your church or ministry program promote? How are we using our gifts to advance the Kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord on earth? Think about these questions prayerfully. See you in Mount Olive at Mount Olive College for "Convention '88," September 13, 7:30 p.m.—September 15 at 4 p.m. Pray for God's leadership and blessing in this Convention!

# Seventy-Sixth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

## College Hall
## Mount Olive College
## Mount Olive, North Carolina

### Tuesday, September 13, 1988

OPENING SESSION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7:30 | Evangelism Rally | (Home Missions Board) | Rodgers Chapel |

### Wednesday, September 14, 1988

MORNING SESSION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30 | Registration of Ministers, Delegates and Visitors | Credentials Committee |
| 9:00 | Convention Called to Order | Mr. G. C. Bryan, Secretary |
| | Congregational Singing | The Rev. Grady Tucker |
| | Solo | Mr. Roger Buchanan |
| | Scripture and Prayer | The Rev. Joseph Ingram |
| | Welcome | The Rev. Frank Harrison |
| 9:20 | President's Remarks | The Rev. De W. Eakes |
| | Committee Appointments | |
| | Partial Report of Credentials Committee | The Rev. K. Alan Lamm |
| | Executive Committee Report | Mr. G. C. Bryan, Secretary |
| | Miscellaneous Business Session | |

### REPORTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10:10 | Foreign Missions | The Rev. Harold Jones |
| 10:25 | Mount Olive College | Dr. Burkette Raper |
| 10:50 | Children's Home | The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor |
| 11:05 | Worship Service | |
| | Congregational Singing | The Rev. Grady Tucker, Leader |
| | Duet | Mrs. Alma Dale and the Rev. John Williams |
| | Convention Offering | |
| | Introductory Message | The Rev. John Williams |
| 12:00 | Recess for Lunch | |

AFTERNOON SESSION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1:30— | Registration (1:30-2:00) | |
| | Congregational Singing and Solo | The Rev. Grady Tucker |
| | Recognition of Fraternal Delegates | The Rev. Scott Sowers |
| 2:00 | Retirement Homes | The Rev. Walter Sutton |
| 2:10 | Home Missions | The Rev. David C. Hansely |
| 2:25 | Minister's Program | The Rev. Donald Fader |
| 2:35 | Church Finance Association | The Rev. Walter Reynolds |
| 2:45 | Free Will Baptist Press | Mr. R. Clifford Gray |
| 2:55 | Miscellaneous Business | |

EVENING SESSION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7:30 | Missions Rally | (Foreign Missions Board) | College Hall |

## Thursday, September 15, 1988

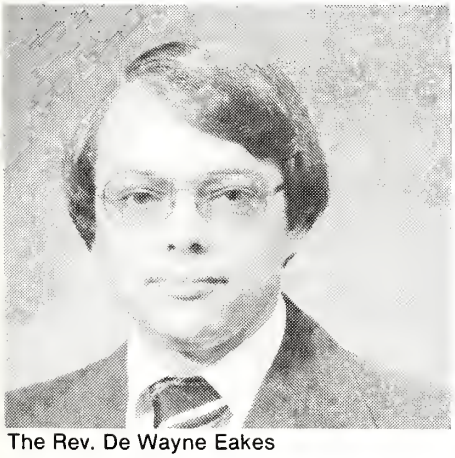
MORNING SESSION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30-9:00 | Final Registration | Credentials Committee |
| 9:00 | Congregational Singing & Solo | The Rev. Grady Tucker |
| | Scripture and Prayer | The Rev. Hollon Norris |
| 9:20 | Cragmont Assembly | The Rev. John R. Williams |
| 9:35 | State Sunday School Convention | The Rev. Bass Mitchell |
| 9:45 | Board of Denominational Publications | The Rev. C. H. Overman |
| 9:50 | State Woman's Auxiliary Convention | Miss Sarah Willoughby |
| 10:00 | State Laymans' League Convention | Mr. Donald Marlowe |
| 10:05 | State League Convention | The Rev Ed. Thornton |
| 10:10 | Historical Commission | Miss Leah McGlohon |
| 10:15 | Minister's Association | The Rev. Ray Wells |
| 10:25 | Camp Vandemere | The Rev. T. Bruce Dudley |
| 10:30 | Chaplain's Commission | The Rev. H. Adrian Grubbs Jr. |
| 10:35 | Carolina Bible Institute | Dr. Floyd B. Cherry |
| 10:45 | Treasurer's Report | The Rev. J. B. Narron |
| 10:55 | Miscellaneous Business | |
| 11:10 | Worship Service | |
| | Congregational Singing | The Rev. Grady Tucker |
| | Convention Offering and Special Music | Mrs. Dianne Riley |
| | Convention Message | The Rev. W. S. Burns |
| 12:00 | Recess for Lunch | |

AFTERNOON SESSION

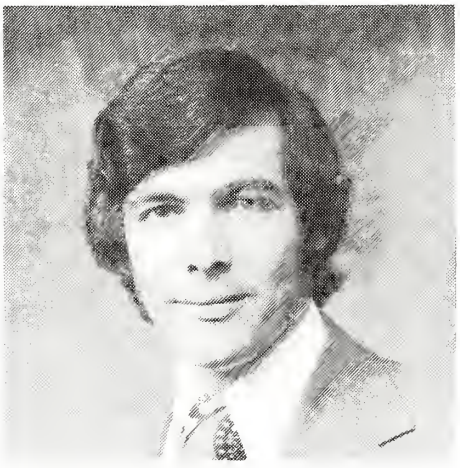
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|---|---|---|
| 1:30 | Congregational Singing and Invocation | The Rev. Grady Tucker |
| 1:35 | General Conference Report | The Rev. W. S. Burns |
| 1:45 | Final Report of Credentials Committee | The Rev. K. Alan Lamm |
| 1:50 | Obituary Committee Report | The Rev. Allen Bryan |
| 2:00 | Resolutions Committee | The Rev. Raymond Jones |
| | Nominating Commitee | The Rev. H. Adrian Grubbs Jr. |
| | Miscellaneous Business Session | |
| | Adjournment | |

## CONVENTION PERSONALITIES



The Rev. De Wayne Eakes

Mr. Eakes, the pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama, serves as president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.



The Rev. John Williams

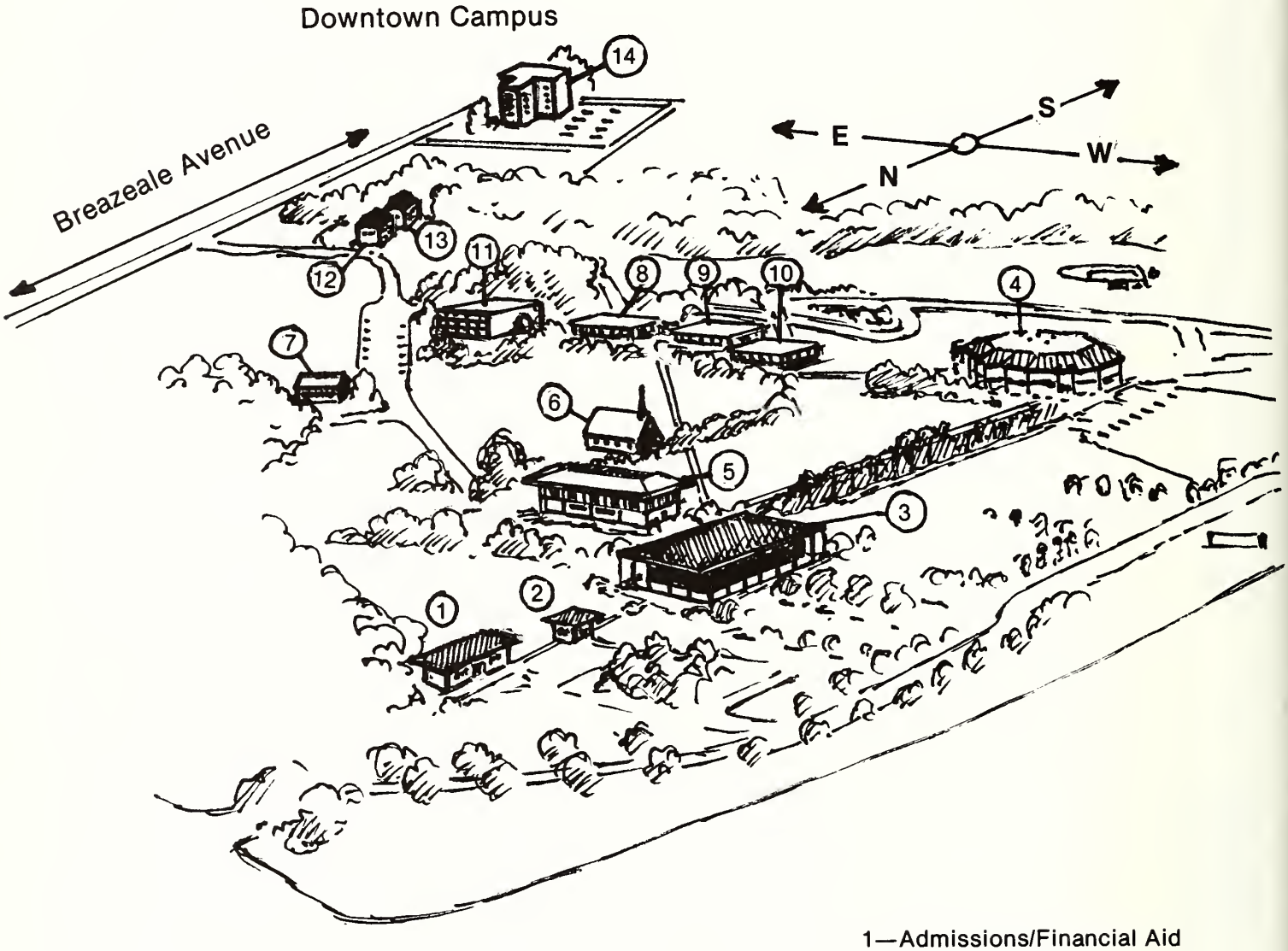
Mr. Williams serves as manager of Cragmont Assembly. He will deliver the Wednesday morning sermon.



The Rev. W. S. Burns

Mr. Burns will speak during the Thursday morning session of the Convention. He pastors Free Union Church, Albemarle Conference.

# MAP




## MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
### CAMPUS MAP

1—Admissions/Financial Aid
2—Alumni Affairs
3—Henderson Building
4—College Hall
5—Moye Library
6—Rodgers Chapel
7—Student Center
8—East Dorm
9—Hart Dorm
10—Griffin Dorm
11—Grantham Dorm
12—Apartment Complex
13—Apartment Complex
14—Downtown Campus

# NIGHT OF EVANGELISM
# September 13, 1988

College Hall
Mount Olive College
7:30 p.m.



This special evening will feature:
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church Choir
Chinquapin, NC

Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church Handbell Choir
Rock Ridge, NC

Singers from Verona Free Will Baptist Church
Jacksonville, NC

The Rev. T. O. Terry
New Bern, NC

The Rev. Mike Ledbetter
Dunn, NC

# 1988 STATE CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

## (Board of Foreign Missions in charge)

**Date:** September 14, 1988
**Time:** 7:30 P.M.
**Place:** College Hall, Mount Olive College
**Speaker:** Fred Baker
**Testimony:** Linda Baker
**Special Music:** The Valley Airs



*Stevie, Fred, Linda and Kim*



*The Valley Airs*

The Valley Airs is a local gospel group from Pikeville, NC. They recently completed their first album entitled, "Just Another Mile." The group consists of Bobbi Ann Proctor-vocals/piano; Beverley Hinnant-vocals; Michelle Hinnant-vocals; Jody Bridgers-drums; Russell Davis-bass guitar; and Burl Carter-manager.

The Bakers just completed a five-year term of service in the Philippines, from 1983-1988. They are home for a one-year furlough. Plan now to attend and show your appreciation to this family that so faithfully serves our Lord in the Philippines. Come and bring a large representation from your church.

**Special offering:** Your special offering at this Mission Rally is vital for the continued growth of your missions programs. Begin to pray now and ask God to reveal to you what your contribution should be this year. I believe Him for the greatest offering in our history.

**Remember,** Your special gift to Foreign Missions at the Missions Rally must be designated. If for some reason you cannot attend the Rally, you can mail your gift and receive credit for the Rally offering.

# MISSIONS TRIP PROVIDES NEW INSIGHTS

*by Scott Sowers*

On Friday, July 22, 1988, I started out on a trip that would prove to be one of the most incredible experiences of my life. Renee Crawford, Diane Hudson, Monty King, Chris May, Janie Sowers, and I made up the Marlboro Church mission team that would participate in the Tennessee Hope Workcamp sponsored by *Group* Magazine. The six of us would travel together to Brownsville, Tennessee, and work on the homes of the unemployed, the elderly, the handicapped, and otherwise needy people of Brownsville and surrounding Haywood County.

I knew that the idea of helping people was a great one, so I felt that the concept of workcamp had to be something special. Although helping people was at the core of the project, there is much more that happened during the eleven days that our group spent on the road and at workcamp. We all left home excited but somewhat anxious about what was ahead. We were going where we had never been before, to participate with people we had never met, to work on the homes of people that we did not know.

We spent the time traveling mixed with activities and preparation for the week ahead. Even though we had literally spent months preparing for the trip—filling out forms, taking personal inventories of skills, studying skills manuals, and sharing the idea of workcamp with others to help raise the support that was needed to make the trip—there was still a lot to be done to prepare ourselves emotionally and spiritually for the week.

Upon arrival in Brownsville, we became a part of the camp that would be composed of 400 young people and their leaders from seventeen different states. Groups came from as far away as Fairbanks, Alaska; and a local group from Brownsville joined the contingency of workers. For one week, this 400-member community of faith would call Haywood Junior High School home. We slept in classrooms on the floor, we ate in the school cafeteria, we showered in the locker rooms, and met in the gym. The school was air conditioned, with the exception of the gym.

One of the first tasks of the week was to divide the camp into work crews. Each work crew would be composed of six people. Most crews had one adult and five teenagers. Each member of our church group was assigned to a different crew, as no two people from the same church would be part of the same crew. This meant that each of us would work on a different home, and each of us would meet and work with five other people. The crew would work together for the rest of the week.

Crews met and together determined responsibilities for the week. Adults were a part of the crew, but the emphasis was on the crew as a group making decisions. It was the entire crew that decided what role each person would play. The crew director would receive the project assignments and help each crew member become an effective member of the team. The organizer determined the time and place to meet each day and handled the first aid kit. The breakmaker would pick up the refreshments and determine the proper time for breaks and lunch. The quartermaster was in charge of picking up tools each morning, returning the tools in the afternoon, and making sure that the crew had the tools that were needed to do its job each day. The devotion leader was responsible for daily devotions at the worksite. The crew reporter gave a written and verbal report each day to the workcamp staff on the

(Turn the Page)

progress of the project, anticipated completion time, and additional materials or help needed.

These six people became a very important part of the workcamp experience for each workcamper. Together they would become a team; they depended on each other in order to get their project done. As you might guess, most of the crews developed into a closely knit family. My crew was composed of Shawn Lowman as crew director, Andy LeFleur as breakmaker, Amy Goode as devotion leader, Jenny Penrod as quartermaster, Brian Collins as crew reporter; and I served as the crew organizer. We grew extremely close as the week progressed. I will never forget these young people and our experiences together.

Our day began with wake-up music each morning at 6. Breakfast was available almost immediately; it was self service, come when you are ready. Each person would then prepare his bag lunch to take to the worksite. Even at this time of day, the school was abuzz with crew members busily picking up refreshments, tools, supplies, and devotional materials for the day. Crews would then load up and head out to the various worksites to put in a day of hard work. Each crew was to be on the road by 8 am.

Crews worked on 82 different job sites during the week. There were a variety of needs represented at the worksites. Diane Hudson worked on a two-room house that did not have indoor plumbing, others worked on more typical homes; but all agreed that there was obvious needs at all of the worksites. Work for the week included roof repair, floor repair and replacement, underpinning, scraping and painting, replacement of window facings, caulking, glazing, weatherstripping, building of porches, and other work which would make the homes safer and more comfortable with the onset of winter just ahead.

I was amazed at the amount and quality of work that were accomplished at the worksites. I could hardly believe that crews of six volunteers could do so much in such a little time. A real important link in the process was the involvement of trouble shooters, who were local contractors that came by each day to help the crew with any problems. They offered assistance by helping the crew come up with solutions.

Another important part in the experience was that of becoming acquainted with the residents of the home that you worked on. Crews and individual crew members were encouraged to spend time getting to know the people that lived at each worksite. Some crews found small children that wanted to help, others found elderly people who were eager to share their stories. Our crew developed an appreciation for our elderly couple, the Fishers. Each day we all got just a little closer. On Thursday, the Fishers shared devotional time with us, and I doubt if either of us will ever forget Mrs. Fisher, with a little quiver in her voice saying, "I've grown to love you folks this week." On Friday, we had a little birthday party for Mr. Fisher, who would be 82 the next week.

I could not share this wonderful experience with you if it had not been for the Group Workcamp Staff. They had been preparing for the workcamp at this site for over a year and a half. The materials that they provided to prepare us for workcamp were thorough and covered almost every possible question. They did an excellent job of coordinating the selection of worksites, the development of schedules, the delivery of materials, the distribution of tools and supplies, and the design of a program that would lead to the most unforgettable experience of my Christian life. I will never forget the warm sense of confidence or the flash of smiles from a staff that believed in us. Although they have been doing camps for twelve years, and this was one of several camps this year. I felt that the entire focus of the staff was on our experience in Brownsville.

The evening programs were designed to build up the individual as well as the crews. Each night we sat with our crews and participated together. Programs included a talent show by the workcampers, a local culture experience featuring the country music group *Dixie,* and a concert by Gregg and Rebecca Sparks.

After the evening programs, we always looked forward to a few minutes together as a church group before saying "Good night." New friendships would not replace old, but would supplement them. The closeness of our group was an important part of workcamp.

Friday was a very special day as we completed our work projects and began preparing for the separation that was to come the next day, as all the groups headed home. Saying "Good-bye" was not easy, but we prepared to leave knowing that we have new friendships that could last a lifetime.

As our church group started the journey home, we began preparing ourselves for life back in Farmville. We spent time relaxing, unwinding and debriefing from our experiences. We realized that we would never be the same. Our hearts and eyes had been opened to needs and opportunities of service at home and abroad. (One of the highlights of the homeward trip was attending worship at Belmont Church in Nashville, Tennessee.)



# BLESSINGS FROM GOD THROUGH TRIALS

*by Rose G. Bowen*

Our God is wonderful! I have always known it but going through experiences with Mr. Bowen in his last sickness and now some very personal blessings to me have made me renew my faith stronger than ever. Mr. Bowen actually saw Jesus and talked with Him. I know! I was there! He never revealed all of his precious moments because he said they were too close to the heart of God to discuss.

I have had a heavy burden for our beloved denomination for so long; and **no** I am not a 72-year-old, grey-headed woman, that does not know what she is talking about. **I am in my right mind!**

After losing a God-fearing, God-loving, real Original Free Will Baptist minister, I really believe that through my many trials and convictions (especially recently) that God has passed the mantle to me. I am not a preacher but did God say that only preachers had the right to win souls, and counsel people, including young ministers, to keep them on the right way?

Our beloved editor, Janie Sowers; our State Convention president, De Wayne Eakes; and so many other Free Will Baptists have written about how we need unity, love for each other, concern for growth, salvation of souls, and I agree.

I have written a book and **it is good;** but for the sake of space, time of year, etc., I am condensing my article, hopefully without ruining the meaning, my plea, and the change I pray that I may bring to all of you who read this.

Through several years of eye surgery, there has been a turmoil in my life and left eye. After six surgeries in that eye, I must admit that despondency strongly came to me. Thank God for Christian friends.

As I think of a special friend who came to me when I needed hope just recently, I praise God because she was led to me. Then another friend and a couple have stood closely by, even to the extent of having a person in my driveway in Ayden several times at 5 a.m. to get me to Duke Hospital for help.

This time when I was brought back, God began to deal with me as never before since my conversion. Bear with me as I emphasize a few experiences. As God dealt with me, it was when I prayed. He called me back to submission and after saying, "Yes, Lord, I truly surrender," He gave me **peace.**

Then after praying on another evening, I fell asleep peacefully. At six a.m. I awoke crying and was saying, "God has given me a dream, I have been to the mountaintop and I have seen Jesus"; and He has given me a warning and a responsibility to tell our beloved denomination that we must work fast and get all of our preachers preaching the Word of God. Also sin is sin!

This seems like Martin Luther King's words, well so be it. For some reason God gave them to me also. It was wonderful!

Please let God back in your life and heart completely, stop shunning sin; call it what it is **SIN!** I believe with my whole heart and soul that God has given me these things to deliver to you. I love everyone, have no malice toward anyone and you shouldn't either.

Let us as a Bible-believing, Bible-loving church start rolling. We do not have much time. Christ will soon return. **He can not let us go on!** Get back to your basic foundation for His sake, but mostly for our own.

When we are right with God, we will support **all** of our causes from the young people through the senior citizens, Christian education, missions, retirement homes, all of our programs; and work will grow.

Remember that God is still on the throne and that He never will forget His own. I am as serious as I have ever been because I believe that God wanted me to deliver these things to you NOW!

I don't know what God has in store for me but I am at perfect peace and completely submissive to His will for the first time in a long time. Let us have a great awakening in our land as we start in our own hearts first and then to the uttermost. May God bless you real good in our State Convention is my prayer.

Pray for me as God deals with me, love me, and yes, I would love to hear from ministers, friends, and anyone concerning this article. Should I have a book published?



# Youth Protection Resources

## Boy Scouts of America

Because of the great concern the Boy Scouts of America has about the problem of child abuse in our society, the Youth Protection program has been developed to safeguard both our youth and adult members. This list of published and videotaped material has been prepared to give professionals and volunteers information on the resources available in educating our membership about child abuse—how to avoid it, how to identify it, and how to deal with it.

*Child Abuse: Let's Talk About It*—This pamphlet challenges that child abuse cannot be tolerated at any level by the Boy Scouts of America. It offers ideas on how to deal with child abuse. The kinds of child abuse—sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment—are defined in the pamphlet. Order No. 3943 ($.40) or Spanish edition No. 3943S ($1.40).

*Child Sexual Abuse: How to Deal With It*—This pamphlet was developed for BSA staff orientation on child abuse and how to deal with it on the local council level. It covers the following: areas of child abuse; reducing the possibilities of child sexual abuse in Scouting; how to deal with allegations of child abuse. The appendixes include a sample form for reporting suspected child abuse, a confidential record sheet, a sample letter for denying registration, and procedures for reviewing a denial of registration. The pamphlet also covers media relations. Order No. 34-199.

*Youth Protection Guidelines (BSA Volunteer Training)*—This training material has been prepared for key volunteers as a continuation of the process of educating our membership about child abuse. Included is material for training council and district leadership; the district committee and commissioner staff; and Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, and Explorer leaders. The instructor's guide is used in conjunction with the videotape. The material and videotape are packaged in a three-ring binder. Each council receives one complete package for each district. Additional packages can be purchased for $35 through the local council service center, from the Marketing Division of the national office, or if you prefer, additional copies of the material and videotape can be duplicated locally. Order No. 34-220.

*Youth Protection Guidelines for Scout Camp Leaders*—Summer camp is an important part of the BSA program. It is at camp and in the outdoor program that the character building and citizenship purposes of Scouting are taught in a 24-hour-a-day setting. This training tool was developed to aid camp staff in identifying potential problems and to give direction in handling the problems if they arise. This material includes a booklet and 20 slides. Order No. 12004 ($9.95).

*Camp Leadership (Guidelines on Youth Protection)*—This folder is distributed to camp staff and leaders and covers the following areas: reporting child abuse and sexual exploitation; detecting sexual molestation; what to do; and precautions against accusations of sexual abuse or exploitation. Order No. 12007 ($.15).

*How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse and Drug Abuse: A Parent's Guide* provides parents and their children with basic information that will increase their awareness of the magnitude of child abuse and drug abuse. The booklet also provides information youth need to assist in their own self-protection. (Supplied to local councils for duplication.)

Youth Protection Basic Training for Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Explorer Leaders includes videotapes and printed material designed to be incorporated in unit leader basic training. The videos, shortened versions of the two-hour training councils have already received, are designed specifically as an introduction on the subject of youth protection. The Cub Scout video is part of the Cub Scout Leader Basic Training Kit, No. 4105, the total kit can be purchased for $59.95. The video alone, which contains more than just the Youth Protection segment, No. 4108, is $19.95. The videos and printed material for the Boy Scout and Explorer leader training were sent to councils for each district. Councils may duplicate this material or order supplemental copies of the videotape from the Audiovisual Service at $15 each. Order Youth Protection for Boy Scout Basic Leader Training, AV-046 and the Exploring counterpart, AV-047.

## OTHER RECOMMENDED REFERENCES

*Camp Director's Guide to Prevent Sexual Exploitation,* by John C. Patterson, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 1835 K Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006.

*The Educator's Role in the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect,* by Diane D. Broadhurst, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, P. O. Box 1182, Washington, DC 20013.

*Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Child Abuse and Neglect,* Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, P. O. Box 1182, Washington, DC 20013.

*For Camp Counselors: Guidelines on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation,* National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 1835 K Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006.

*A Source Book on Child Sexual Abuse,* by David Finkelhor and Associates. SAGE Publications, Inc., 275 South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90212.

## NATIONAL RESOURCES

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention—Tips to Parents

National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013

*Educators, Schools, and Child Abuse,* by Diane D. Broadhurst
National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse
332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60604-4357

National Network of Runaway and Youth Services
905 Sixth Street SW, No. 411-B
Washington, DC 20024

National PTA
700 North Rush Street
Washington, DC 20036

Library of Congress

National Symposium on Child Molestation
(1984: United States Department of Justice)
Washington, DC 20540

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
1835 K Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006

# LEARNING TO SERVE

Paul's letter to the Ephesians was to bring awareness of mission needs. ". . . that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts" (Ephesians 6:22).

Awareness brings one's mission vision into focus. Awareness enables one to pray, to see a need for giving, and to be serious about surrendering to God's call. Christians are usually spurred to interest when they see a genuine need (human emptiness and despair). They are moved when they see God working in the lives of others.

For the next several months, we will look at different ways that young people can serve others. When your church group does something special, write and tell us about it. (Don't forget to send pictures!) Send your articles to Janie Jones Sowers, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

# THE AGING

## GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITIES

Before choosing a project with aging persons, be familiar with where older persons are in your community and what is clearly being done for them. With your adult leader check the institutions in your town or city where older people live.

When you find older persons in an institution, become familiar with the rules and regulations of the institution and ask the persons in charge about the type service your group could perform. If the institution offers training of any type, make plans for your group to participate.

Find out what other church or civic groups in your community are doing to help the aging.

When you find older persons living in a family setting, ask family members what your group can do to be helpful.

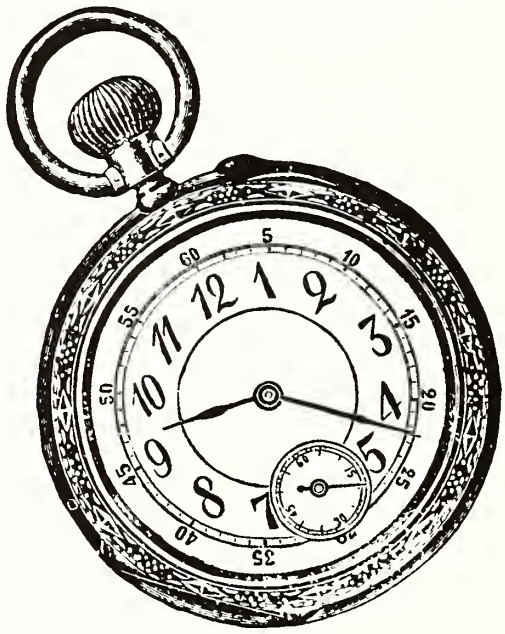
If you find an older person who lives alone, ask neighbors or other friends to suggest ways you can be of service. Visit with the older person and you will more than likely spot a need quickly.

## PROJECT SUGGESTIONS

*Visit the Aging*—Here are some suggestions you may find helpful as you visit the aging.

Never visit as a matter of duty. Your host will be sure to know if you are visiting because you feel you must instead of because you want to.

Visiting can be made easier if two or three people go together, especially on the first visit. More than three persons could be disturbing if they all visited the same person. Stay long enough to be helpful if there are things to be done—cleaning up, writing cards or letters, or reading; but do not stay so long that you upset the routine of the older person or tire him. Do not appear to be hurried, or your host may feel that it has been an imposition for you to come.



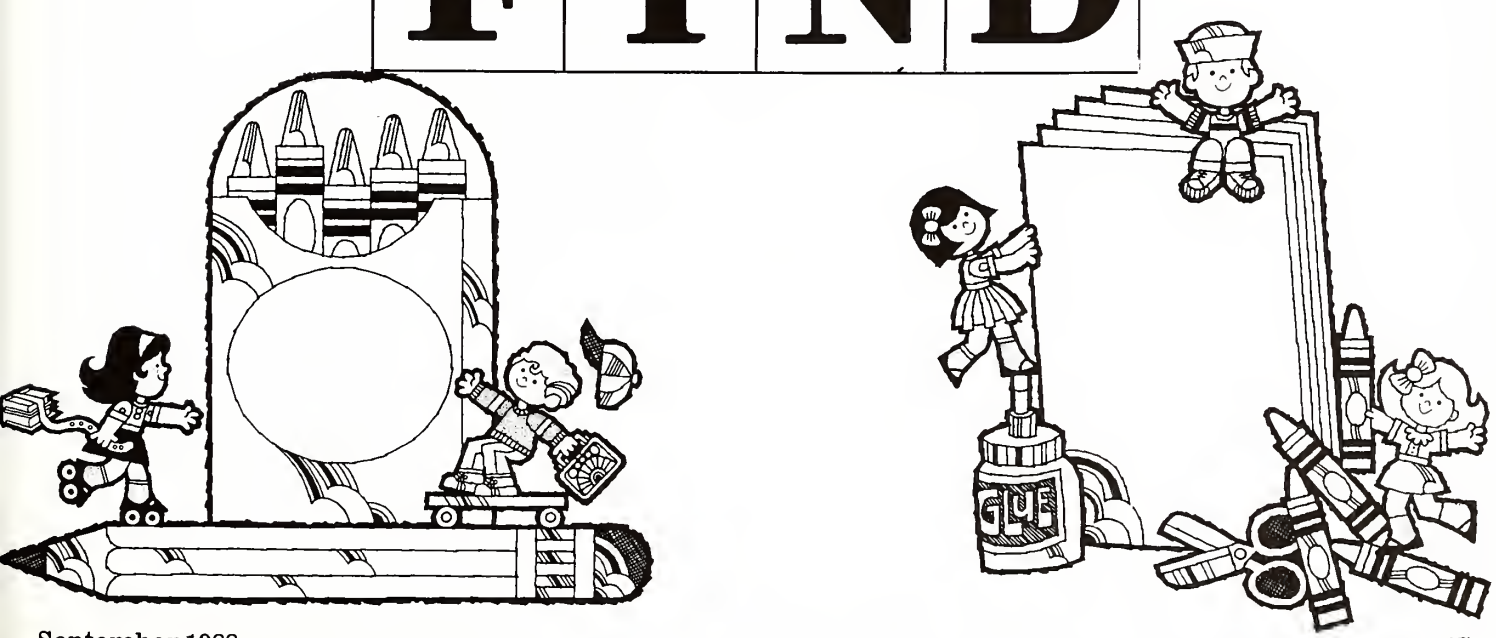
When you have become acquainted with the older person, take cookies, hard candies, fruit, lotion or whatever your friend likes. An arrangement of artificial flowers is a gift that probably would be appreciated.

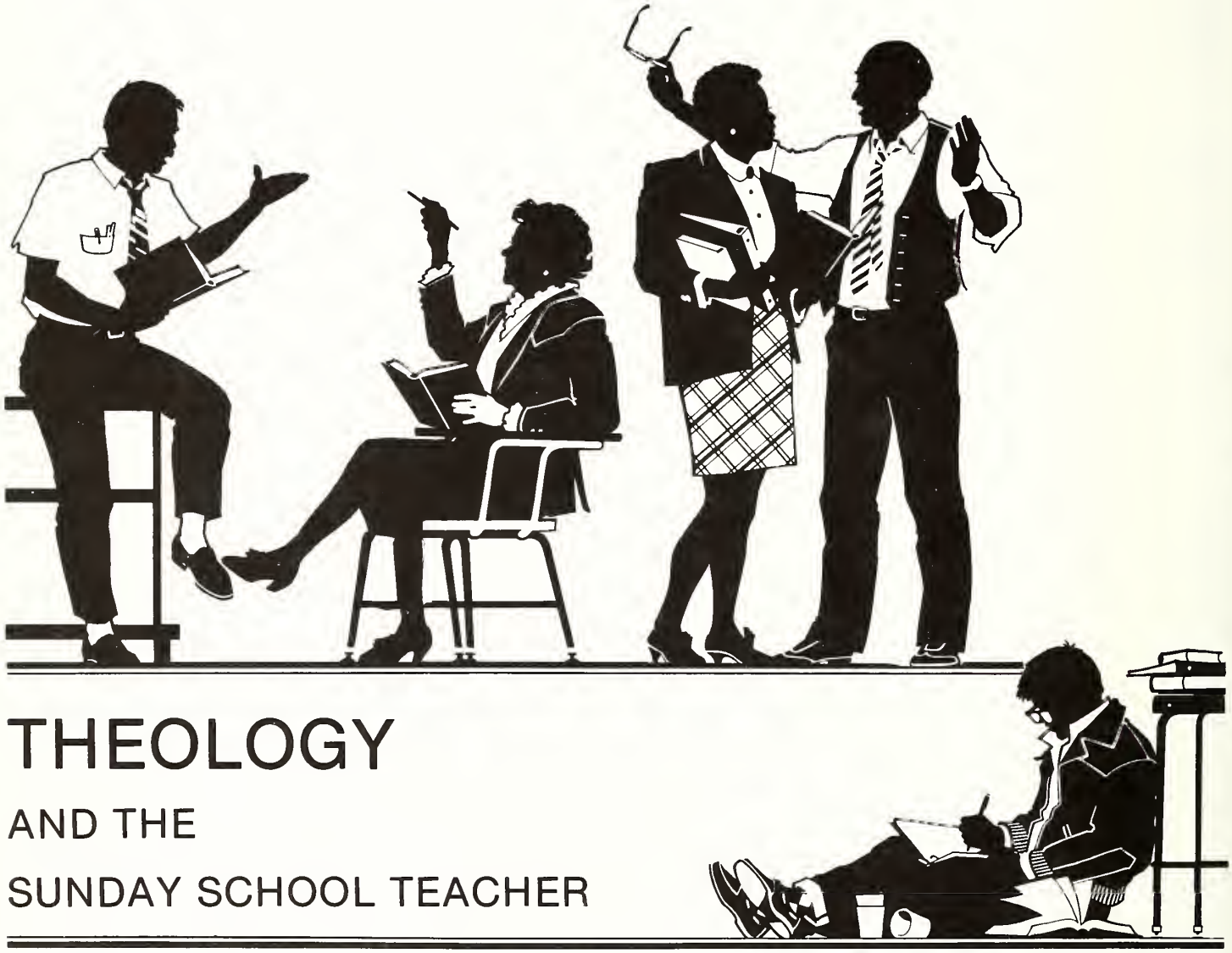
# STEP WORDS

Our Heavenly Father wants all of us to be saved. Many people think they can save themselves, but this is not true. In order to be saved, we must believe in Jesus and accept Him as our Lord and Saviour. We must live for Him, even though it may not always be easy. The best part is that we can look forward to going to live with Jesus forever in Heaven. Matthew 10:39 tells us, "He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it."

Using the words **lose** and **find** from Matthew 10:39, do the "Step Words" exercise. Can you change the word **lose** to **find** in 4 moves? Change only **one** letter each time. Each change must still make a 4-letter word.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **L** | **O** | **S** | **E** |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **F** | **I** | **N** | **D** |





# THEOLOGY
## AND THE
## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

*by Bass Mitchell*

"Theology." That's a word that may have some negative connotations for you. Perhaps it sounds too academic or stuffy or even controversial. Maybe you had rather not bother with it. The only problem is that you must and do!

The word "theology" literally means "the study of God." "A clearer relationship with us." Theology is what you teach each Sunday. It's the content of your lessons. Each lesson you teach says something about your understanding of God. You see, whether you like it or not, you are a theologian.

The real question isn't to teach or not teach theology, but what kind of theology are you teaching? Is it

biblical? Is it true?

There are many important areas in which you need training as a teacher. One of the most neglected is in theology. You need a good understanding of basic Christian doctrines. How can your teaching be truly effective without knowing what you believe as a Christian and why you believe it?

We all need to be stimulated to examine our own beliefs, test them, come to really undestand what we believe, and to even correct misunderstanding. We need to "own" our theology through examination and study. Without this, the content of our teaching may become shallow at best and misleading or even anti-Christian at the worst.

But how can we do this? How can we get some theological training as teachers?

### Sermons

Perhaps your pastor would be willing to preach a series of sermons on basic Christian doctrines. Tapes could be made of them, listened to and discussed in groups.

### Courses

Your pastor or some other staff person could plan a course on Christian theology for teachers.

Suggest this to your pastor. On a certain number of Wednesday nights, have "Dialogue on Doctrine" sessions. This would be a good way to examine some of our basic doctrines. If you'd like more information on just how to do this, write or call: Bass Mitchell, Route 7, Box 471, Goldsboro, NC; 734-8378.

If you have a college or seminary near by, enroll in the theology courses offered, or have a professor come and teach a mini-course in theology. For example, Mount Olive College offers a course in basic Christian beliefs. Call and see when it's offered.

### Denominational Resources

Many denominations have a statement of faith or some publication that outlines their basic beliefs. We have our *Articles of Faith.* Obtain copies of it. Read these. Get together with other teachers for discussion.

Wouldn't it be great if we had an elective study book based on our doctrines? It could be used for new Christians or new church members, as well as a Sunday School class.

### Books

There are many excellent books on theology. Here are some good ones.

*Know What You Believe,* by Paul Little. Published in 1970, by Scripture Press Publications.

*The Faith of Our Fathers,* by David Redding. Published in 1971, by Eerdmans Publishing Company.

*Basic Christianity,* by John R. W. Stott. Reprinted in 1983, by Eerdmans Publishing Company.

*Basic Christian Teachings,* by Rolf Aaseng. Published in 1982, by Augsburg Publishing House.

*Basic Beliefs of Christians,* by Douglas Beyer. Published in 1981, by Judson Press.

*Christian Doctrine,* by J. S. Whale. Reprinted by Cambridge University Press, 1973.

*Understanding the Christian Faith,* by Georgia Harkness. Published by Abingdon Press, 1977.

*A Call to Faith,* by Rachel Henderlite. Published by John Knox Press, 1972.

*We Believe,* by Henry Wade Dubose. Published in 1961, by John Knox Press.

The books listed above are short, concise introductions to many basic Christian doctrines. Reading and studying one of them with other teachers would be a good way to get training in Christian theology. The last one, *We Believe,* is a study of the Apostles' Creed. It covers most Christian doctrines and has discussion questions at the end of each chapter.

The books listed below are longer and go into more depth with each doctrine.

*The Christian Faith,* by Dallas Roark. Reprinted in 1977, by Baker Book House.

*The Faith of the Christian Church,* by Gustaf Aulen. Published by Fortress Press, 1973.

*Christian Doctrine,* by Shirley Guthrie. Published by John Knox Press, 1983.

*The Protestant Faith,* by George Forell. Published in 1979, by Fortress Press.

*Christian Faith and Beliefs,* by Morris Ashcraft. Published by Broadman Press, 1984.

*A Short History of Christian Doctrine,* by Bernhard Lohse. Published by Fortress Press, 1978.

Many books are available on just one doctrine. For example, if you wanted to learn more about the person and work of Christ, you have a wealth of books from which to choose. Such books are usually in-depth and detailed examinations of each doctrine.

There are many benefits for teaching through acquiring a better understanding of what you believe and why you believe it. New insights will come that you can share. You will have more knowledge and resources to use in lesson preparation and in teaching content. Your self-confidence will increase as you realize that you have a sound and thorough understanding of basic Christian theology. Best of all you will be able to share more clearly and forcefully what it means to be a Christian.

**MOVING DAY, 1988**

Twelve children from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home participated in a week-long program designed to help them deal with the separation from families, homes, friends and loved ones. This separation is more than most children can handle with a healthy attitude.

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home hosted the event which met in Heritage Hall the week of July 11-15, 1988. The Department of Social Services of Wake County and Sherry Blanton, a social worker at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, were the leaders of this very beneficial week.

This program helped the children grieve the loss of a parent through death or being removed from the home and placed in foster care or in a children's home.

The goal of making the transition from a single family to a children's home family easier to accept was reached through relaxation techniques, puppet shows, worry dolls, songs, large and small group discussions, and a treasure map to the future.

The highlight of the week was making a movie entitled "Moving Day, 1988." The stars of the movie were very proud at the premiere showing on July 20, 1988. Special guests included the residents and staff of the Children's Home.

As you pray for your child care ministry, please remember our children and staff as they work together to find the best possible solution to problems such as separation.







Shown above are the members of Riverside Church, Goldsboro, who participated in the Cape Fear District Youth Field Day on August 6, 1988, held on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. The annual project for the youth of Riverside was to gather items that the children at the Children's Home could use. They brought five large boxes of paper goods and toiletries that our children are using. Thank you for choosing the Children's Home as your project and for visiting our campus.



Shown above are the members of Genesis Mission which visited their child care ministry on August 16, 1988. They brought with them a large box of school supplies for our children who started to school on September 1. Our children say a special, "Thank You" for the school supplies and for sharing your Saturday with us.

## OUR EVANGELISTIC CRUSADE LAUNCHED IN JUNE, 1988



Bibles and literature for June evangelism campaign.

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

The Free Will Baptists in India feel it a great privilege to undertake evangelistic campaign in the month of June every year! Of course, it becomes possible because of the help of the Board of Missions, which supplies our financial needs at this juncture. Nevertheless, they are equal shareholders in this great service to our Lord and Saviour. Versatile experiences come our way which move our hearts and prepare us for the great movement of evangelism so desperately needed in our country of teeming millions.

It is a time that many seekers keep waiting for our teams to share the Word of God with them and to answer their questions. Though the month of June is extremely hot in our country and the temperature this year ranged between 46-48 degree celsius in our state of Utter Pradesh, our teams (four teams of six persons each and two teams of eight people each comprised of ministers and deacons) went out at different places within our state, preaching the Word to the lost souls. There was a great shortage of drinking water this year. It was available in some places and not at all places. Owing to the considerable shortage of rains in the past years, the water level had gone down by six to ten feet.

In spite of all these problems, the Lord Jesus Christ was with us in those days of penetration. There was neither sickness among our people (despite prevailing epidemics) nor any problem confronted which could not be faced. The highlight of our evangelistic efforts was that 30,000 souls had the opportunity of hearing the Word of God and knowing that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Saviour of mankind. The target of this year was 38 villages. There was encouraging response from the younger generation and we very much hope that it will not be too late that many of them will accept the Lord as their Saviour. Since these villages were so far scattered, our people traveled at least 240 miles (by the six groups) in different directions from June 4-27, 1988.

We had 280 complete Hindi Bibles, 700 Hindi New Testaments and 150 Urdu New Testaments, and four kinds of different Hindi literature bought from the Bible Society of India, in the bulk of 150,000 expounding the life of Jesus Christ and the need of salvation to mankind. The entire stock that we carried with us was distributed to those who demanded the same and nothing was left when we returned back from the field. We praise the Lord for enabling us to complete this hazardous task.

In the past years, it has been experienced that the recorded number of people who came in the fold of our Master are those whose hearts were deeply touched and mobilized when questioned about their eternity during our evangelistic campaign. The year 1988 started with a great venture and magnanimous gesture of encouragement to our church ministers and deacons as we experienced recorded baptism of new converts since the inception of work of the Free Will Baptists.

As we march ahead in His vineyard and carry His Great Commission in our country, we thank the people of our integral church for sharing the great task in our land and we assure them that they will be richly blessed from above for all that they are doing through the church in India.

## DVBS GRADUATION RITES

*by Pastor Fidel Presto*

The first Daily Vacation Bible School graduation for San Jose Outreach was held in San Jose, Dumaran, Palawan, on May 18, 1988. There were 10 candidates for graduation. The DVBS theme was "Learning God's Way." The key verses were, "But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, 'Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little

(Turn the Page)



DVBS Graduation at San Jose.

child, he shall not enter therein' " (Mark 10:14-15).

We started our graduation rites with a singspiration at 3 p.m., led by Sister Arlita Peralta. The welcome was given by Brother Antonio Dela Pena, first counselor in barangay San Jose. Our emcee, Sister Valmie Martinez, called on the Rev. Paul Grubbs to voice our opening prayer. Sisters Dary Biñas and Meriegene Biñas, with Brother Elmer Garcellano, rendered a special in song.

Brother Teddy Martinez introduced our guest speaker, the Rev. Jaapal Ontong, who spoke on the text from Matthew 18:5-6. It says, "And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

After this message, the awarding of certificates and honors was by the Rev. Jaapal Ontong, Brother Teddy Martinez and Pastor Fidel Presto. For the intermediates, first honor went to Jerlyn Lizardo, second honor to Darlin Lizardo, third honor to Allan Ibang-Ibang, and fourth honor to Nida Lizardo. The primary honors went to Alma Atanoso, first honor, and Cecil dela Torre, second honor. We also gave awards for drawing with crayons, being most polite, most well behaved, most active, most attentive, most neat and clean, and for participating.

The children and their parents were happy. They all enjoyed the children receiving medals and ribbons. I believe the children learned much truth about God.

I gave my closing remarks by challenging the parents to bring their children to Sunday School and to allow them to attend DVBS next year. I also gave millions of thanks to the Lord for His wonderful power. He says, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5b). Many thanks goes to my DVBS helper, Raul Galfo, a sophomore at Palawan Bible College.

May God always bless us and our children.

## WILLEM AND LYDIA VAN DER PLAS ARE "BACK HOME AGAIN"

*by Teresa Grubbs*



Willem and Lydia van der Plas arrived safely, on time, and wearing big smiles when they emerged from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila, Philippines, on June 15. They were met by Paul, Teresa, and Andrew Grubbs. They appeared very rested and happy after their short visit with their children, new granddaughters, and other family in Holland. Within the hour, the conversation was on the work and teaching to be done when they reached Palawan.

They arrived in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, on the night of June 21, at about 10 p.m. Their plane was late by more than two hours. They were met this time by a crowd of students and workers, even though the hour was late. Many smiles, hugs, and handshakes were exchanged. "Back home again," they were ready to "get back into the swing of things."

The van der Plas couple was the honored guests on Friday night, June 24, as many of our workers and church people gathered at Palawan Bible College to give Willem and Lydia a more formal welcome. Yes, they are now very busy doing what they have been called to do, and we are very glad to have them back home.

### FWB MINISTER TO TEACH AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The Rev. C. Ray Taylor of Pikeville, pastor of Casey's Chapel Church in Wayne County, has been appointed professor of Psychology at Mount Olive College.

Taylor is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College and holds a Master of Science degree from East Carolina University. He has also studied at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently completing a doctoral degree at North Carolina State University at Raleigh.

Taylor has been a part-time instructor at Mount Olive College's Seymour Johnson Air Force Base extension program for the past two years.

### STATE CONVENTION

The Free Will Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will meet on the campus of Mount Olive College Tuesday-Thursday, September 13-15, 1988. The Evangelism Rally, sponsored by the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel. The Foreign Missions Board will sponsor a Missions Rally at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in College Hall.

The business and worship sessions of the Convention will be held in College Hall on Wednesday and Thursday. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church in Lucama, is president of the Convention.

### CHRISTIAN MUSIC CONCERT

A Christian Music Concert will be held October 30 at 8:00 p.m. in College Hall featuring Miss Cynthia Lynn Gentry and the TruHearts from Atlanta, Georgia. Miss Gentry is a former Miss Cumberland County and a former runner-up in the Miss North Carolina Pageant. The program will be an inspiration and blessing to youth and adults. (Load up your buses and vans—free admissions! An offering will be received.)

### PLANNING SESSIONS FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

There are five remaining planning sessions on the 1988 schedule. The sessions, which began in mid-August, help volunteers plan the multitude of details for the success of each event. The 17 county dinners are held throughout eastern North Carolina in October and November.

Planning sessions scheduled for September:

*Washington-Tyrell-Martin-Pasquotank Counties,* Thursday, September 1, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor Church, near Creswell.

*Pamlico County,* Sunday, September 4, 5:00 p.m., Mount Zion Church, near Vandemere.

*Johnston-Wake Counties,* Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Smithfield.

*Wilson County,* Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m., Daniel's Chapel Church, near Wilson.

*Carteret County,* Friday, September 9, 7:30 p.m., Crab Point Church, Morehead City.

### EDUCATION FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

With the awareness that Mount Olive is the only college related to the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the College Board of Trustees has approved a program that will focus on the education of both ministers and lay persons for church-related vocations. Special features will include practical and supervised work experiences for ministerial students and continuing education for pastors, church staff members and volunteers. The Rev. David Hines, an experienced pastor and doctoral candidate at Southeastern Seminary, assumed his duties in August as director of the program. He will be assisted by an advisory board of church leaders from all areas of the Free Will Baptist Church.



**Education for Christian Ministries**—A major milestone in the journey of Mount Olive College on the Road to Excellence is the inauguration of a program of "Education for Christian Ministries." Discussing the program are, left to right, (seated) President W. Burkette Raper; David Hines, who began his work in August as director of the new program; and Frank R. Harrison, chaplain; (standing) Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, director of Church Support; Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, dean; and Mrs. Dianne Riley, director of Admissions.

**REGISTRATION TO BE HELD FOR EVENING CLASS AT MOC**

Fall semester evening classes at Mount Olive College begin Tuesday, September 6. Registration will be held from 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. in the Henderson Building on the first night of class. The last day to register for the evening program is Monday, September 12.

Free Will Baptist licensed or ordained ministers and their spouses may enroll in six (6) credit hours or less for $25 per course.

For more information, contact Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, 28365. (Phone 919/658-2502.)

**Night Religion Courses for Fall, 1988**
(Cost $25 per course plus books)

*Hebrew Prophets:* A study of the Old Testament prophets, their historical background and their contributions to the biblical faith. First class meeting on Thursday, September 1, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Room 115, Henderson Building. Dr. Michael Pelt, instructor.

*Introduction to the Old Testament:* An examination of the writings of the Old Testament and their relevance for biblical faith. First class meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Room 115, Henderson Building. Dr. Robert Price, instructor.

*Pastoral Ministry:* A general introduction to the Christian ministry with emphasis on the New Testament concept of pastoral care and various duties of the pastor. First class meeting on Monday, September 12, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Room 115, Henderson Building. The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, instructor.

*Conversational Spanish Course:* Will meet weekly beginning Tuesday night, September 6, at 7:30 p.m., at the First Baptist Church, Smithfield (located at 202 Fourth Street beside Town Hall). This course is a sequence course following the one taught in the Spring of 1988 and is designed to help interested persons learn basic "conversational Spanish" in order to more effectively minister to the Spanish population of the area. There will be a charge of $25 per person, and the area churches are urged to provide the fee for their participants. Each participant should bring a pencil and pen to the meeting on September 6. The instructor is Mrs. Olga R. Ruiz. The last class will be December 13.

*Additional courses* during the day include Greek, Life and Teachings of Jesus, and Psychology and Religion. For more information contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison (919/658-2502).




**SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT FOR MINISTERS**
**September 30—October 1**
**Eagles' Nest Conference Center**
**Dudley, North Carolina**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Purpose:** | To provide an opportunity for serious study, reflection and worship experiences for the minister's own spiritual nurture and renewal. |
| **Time:** | Begin at 1 p.m. on Friday, September 30, and end October 1, at 11:30 a.m. |
| **Two Meals:** | Friday, 5:30 p.m. (hamburger, cook-out)<br>Saturday, 8:00 a.m. (cereal, coffee, juice) |
| **Cost:** | $15 per person (includes meals and lodging) |
| **Requirements:** | (1) Bring a Bible<br>(2) Read the book *The Way of the Heart* by Henri M. Nouwen<br>(3) Spend the night at Eagles' Nest |
| **Retreat Leader:** | Dr. Calvin Mercer, professor of Religion, East Carolina University |

Each person will bring his own sleeping bag, towel, soap, etc. for spending the night.

Sponsored by the North Carolina Ministerial Association and Mount Olive College. For more information contact Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (phone 919/658-2502).

# CORNERSTONE

## A NEW women's weekend retreat for the fall



Cornerstone, Cragmont's newest retreat weekend, will set sail on its maiden voyage, November 25-27, 1988. It is patterned after Morning Star, the Spring Women's Retreat held the weekend following Easter. Cornerstone is planned as a time women can leave the responsibilities of home and job for a short period and spend some time in communion with the Creator in the splendor of His mountain creations.

We think we have picked the ideal weekend—Thanksgiving. Get the family all filled and satisfied on a turkey dinner on Thursday. They can live off the leftovers all weekend while you join us to receive some nourishment of another type.

This can be a weekend of growth and revitalization for the spiritual side of your life. Our weekend will begin with a service Friday night and end following the worship service Sunday morning. Saturday morning will be devoted to Bible study, with Saturday afternoon free for your own adventures.

If you have enjoyed Morning Star in the spring, please consider joining us for Cornerstone in the fall. If the time of Morning Star has not been convenient for you to attend, here's another time for you to try. This doesn't replace Morning Star but provides a second opportunity each year to come away from life's rush to be still and feel the touch of God.

CORNERSTONE

**Dates:** November 25-27, 1988

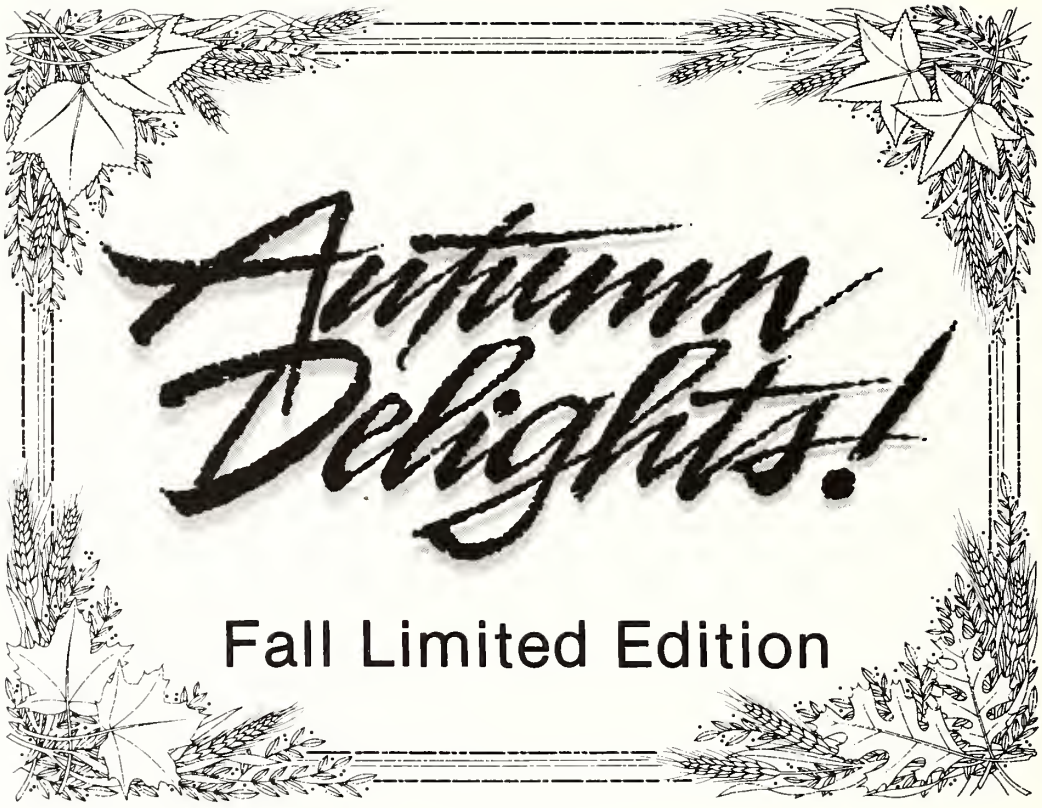
**Includes:** Friday and Saturday Lodging
3 Meals Saturday
Breakfast Sunday

**Cost:** $40 per person

**Registrar:**
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

**Co-Directors:**
Dola Dudley
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810




We are once again offering our FALL LIMITED EDITION, which includes three nights at Cragmont, two days traveling to and from Cragmont, and two days touring the mountains. This is offered by Cragmont for a package price of $125 per person. This price includes travel cost, lodging, Monday night supper, and breakfast each morning. This price **excludes** personal spending money and the cost of meals while away from Cragmont.

Limited Edition begins Monday, October 17, 1988. Transportation is provided by motor coach with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns.

Tuesday will be an all-day excursion on passenger vans, allowing for travel not ordinarily seen by tourists. On Wednesday following breakfast, we will travel to the Gatlinburg-Pigeon Forge area, offering several possible attractions, such as Christus Gardens and Dollywood.

Limited Edition comes to an end on Thursday, October 20. You will leave after breakfast to return to eastern North Carolina.

Because of limited space, reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. To be assured of a place, please return your completed reservation form along with $25 non-refundable deposit. The balance of $100 will be due by October 3, 1988.

Come join us for this special fall retreat. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning, searching for scenery and driving.

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**LIMITED EDITION, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711**

Name _____ Sex _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Church _____



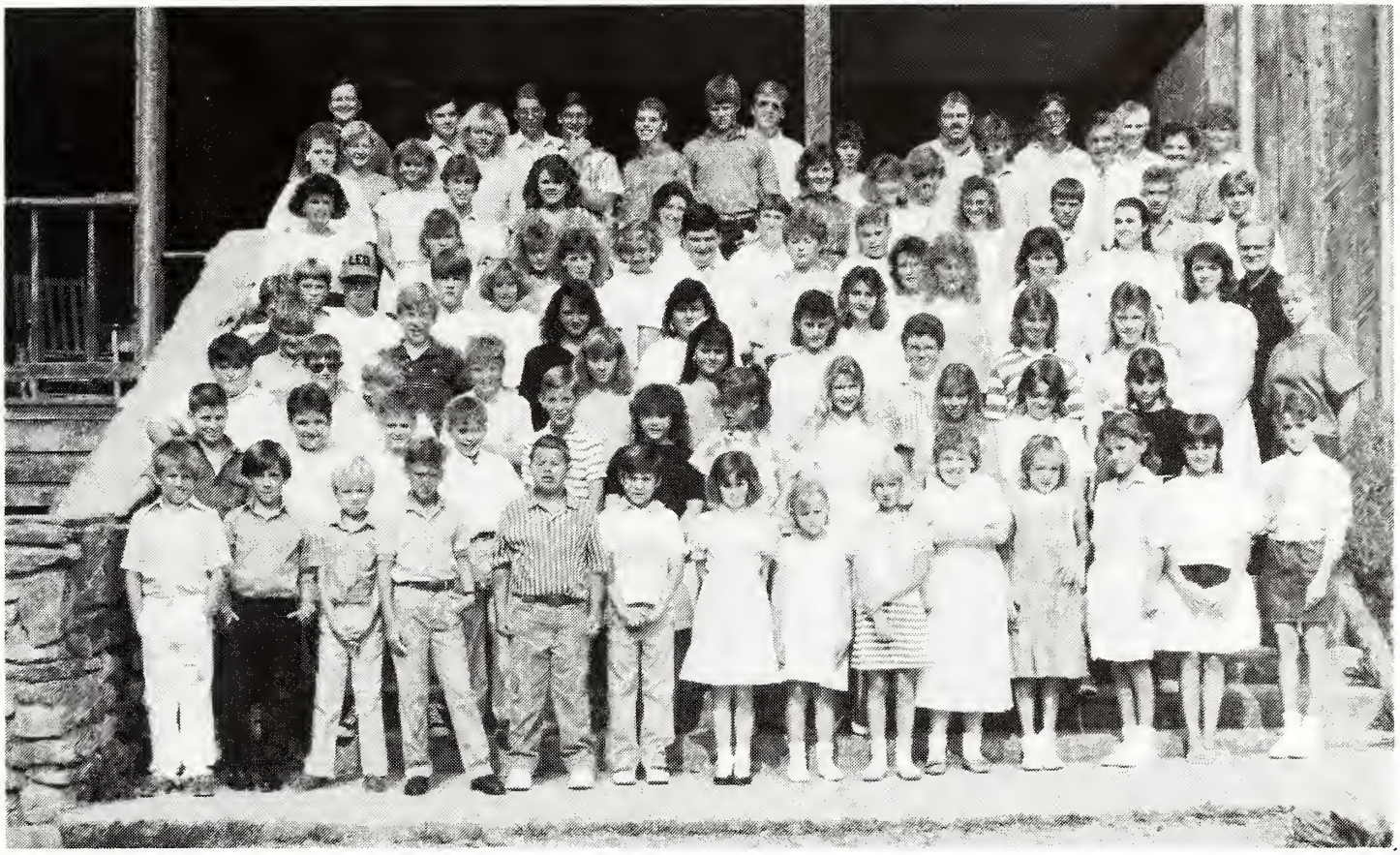
"Heart Cries" was the theme for the two Cragmont Woman's Conferences in August. The total attendance was 187. Those bringing Morning Devotions were: Mavie Daughtry, Eunice Sexton, Louise Bryan, Linda Baker, Nellie Outlaw, Martha Parsons and Teresa Ball. The Morning Bible Studies were presented by Lizzie Dawson and the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard. The Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, brought the evening messages except for Friday nights when the Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions, was the speaker. Under the direction of Dola Dudley, Becky Jo Sumner, Registrar Alice Barrow, and musicians Alma Dale, Alma Buck, Geraldine Summerlin and Nina Grace Register, the conferences were real spiritual blessings. The staff at Cragmont provided the best possible physical blessings.—Ruth L. Warrick, Corresponding Secretary, Woman's Auxiliary Convention.



General Youth Conference II



General Youth Conference I



Young People's Bible Conference



## Cragmont Summer's End Reunion
## Saturday, September 17, 1988
## Mount Olive College

Picnic Supper at 6 P.M.
(Reservation Responses Required August 17)

Evening Activities at 7 P.M.
College Hall



Freddie Pierce, ventriloquist, is the featured speaker.

# ANNUAL MINISTERS' AND SUPERINTENDENTS' BANQUET

September 9
King's Restaurant
Kinston, NC
7 P.M.

All ministers, superintendents, and their wives are invited. The cost per person is $5.50.



THE REV. FRANKIE BAGGETT has accepted pastoral duties at Sidney Church. Mr. Baggett and his wife Debra are both recent graduates of Mount Olive College. While attending college, Mr. Bagget earned BA degrees in religion and psychology. Debra earned a BS in business administration. At Mount Olive, Mr. Baggett also served as president of the Student Government Association.

The Baggetts' new address is Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC 27810.

Sidney Church, Albemarle Conference, is located 6 miles south of Belhaven at Sidney Crossroads.

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THE EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY FALL CONVENTION will be held at Verona Church on Thursday, September 22. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

The theme is "Lift Him Up," with the theme verse, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32). The Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, will be the morning speaker.

The church is located at Verona on Highway 17 South, between Jacksonville and Folkstone.

The scheduled program follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn 45, "I Love to Tell the Story"
—Welcome, Marie Silence, Host President
—Response, Hazel Anderson, Northeast
—Devotions and Prayer, Judy Kennedy, Sandy Plain
—Special Music, Heavenaries, Verona
10:25—President's Remarks, Janet Brown, White Oak Grove
—Business Session
11:05—Hymn 357, "Whosoever Will"
—Offering and Prayer
—Life Membership Award, Florine Slaughter, Holly Springs
—Special Music, Heavenaires
11:25—Convention Message, The Rev. Fred Baker
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn 280, "Bring Them In"
—Prayer
—Memorial Service, Evelyn Benson, Sarecta
—Special Music, Annie Belle Hines, Kinston, First
1:30—**Reports**
—Children's Home, The Rev. Bobby Taylor
—Retirement Homes and Eastern Conference Missions, The Rev. Walter Sutton
—Home Missions, The Rev. David Charles Hansley
—Foreign Missions, The Rev. Harold Jones
—Ministers' Retirement Program, The Rev. Donald Fader
—Mount Olive College, Jean Ackiss
—Camp Vandemere, The Rev. Bruce Dudley
—Free Will Baptist Press, Mr. R. Clifford Gray
—Youth, Pam Kennedy
—Cragmont, Velma Morris
—Treasurer, Velma Morris
—Other Business
—Benediction

THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE will convene with Shiloh Church, Pinetown, on Oc-

(Turn the Page)

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tober 5. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited to attend.

WINTERVILLE CHURCH will have its Annual Harvest Sale on Saturday, October 1, 1988, at the Winterville Fire Department. Crafts and baked goods will be on sale throughout the day beginning at 11. Hot dogs and french fries will be sold at the lunch hour and chicken pastry will be sold beginning at 4:30 p.m. There will be good gospel singing at 6:00 p.m. and an auction beginning at 7. This event is sponsored by the Christian Fellowship Class and the proceeds will go to the Building Fund.

CASEY'S CHAPEL CHURCH, Goldsboro, will hold its Sixth Annual Harvest Sale on Saturday, September 24, at the Elroy Volunteer Fire Department, Highway 70 East, beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing throughout the day. Barbecue dinners will be available beginning at 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Other items on hand during the day will be crafts, hot dogs, soft drinks, baked and canned goods. The evening program will feature gospel singing by "The New Life Singers" from Wilson, followed by an auction at 7:30 p.m. Cakes, quilts (hand made), crafts, and other items will be auctioned.

Proceeds will go toward the Building Fund.

CENTRAL DISTRICT LADIES AUXILIARY CONVENTION will meet at Tarboro Church on September 24. **The meeting time has changed from 10 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. There will be no afternoon session. Registration will be at 9 a.m.**



HOMECOMING SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT NORTHEAST CHURCH on Sunday, October 2. The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor, will deliver the homecoming sermon. Mrs. Ted Garner of the local church will conduct the annual memorial service for deceased members and the Northeast Adult Choir will perform as usual. The fall harvest offering will be given in procession. The church is hoping to give enough in the harvest offering to finish paying off the remaining indebtedness on the two-year-old fellowship building.

Lunch will be served at the noon hour in the church's Christian Service Fellowship Building. As usual, Northeast community and friends will share a long fellowship hour of feed and fellowship. No afternoon service will be held. Former members, pastors and friends are invited to share the special event.

The Northeast Church is located on the corner of Indian Springs Road and Northeast Church Road, ¾ mile northeast of Mount Olive.

Pictured above is the fellowship annex and a part of the Sunday School department, with the church sanctuary in the background. The new structure is valued at approximately $100,000, with all modern conveniences.

The Rev. David Hines, director of Education for Christian Ministries of Mount Olive College, will be the visiting minister for a series of revival services which will begin on Monday, October 3, and continue through Friday, October 7. Special music is planned each night of the revival under the direction of the pastor and choir director, Mrs. Lorraine Sutton. The service each night will begin at 7:30.

SMITH'S NEW HOME CHURCH will observe Homecoming on Sunday, September 25. The day's activities will begin with Sunday School at 10, with the morning worship service beginning at 11. The Rev. David W. Hansley will deliver the morning message. Lunch will be served during the noon hour, followed by an afternoon service at 1:30 with music and a memorial service.

Revival services are scheduled for September 26-30. A different retired minister will speak each evening. Those speaking are as follows: Monday, Bruce Barrow; Tuesday, Ed Taylor; Wednesday, James Evans; Thursday, N. D. Beamon; Friday, David W. Hansley.

**NOTICE**

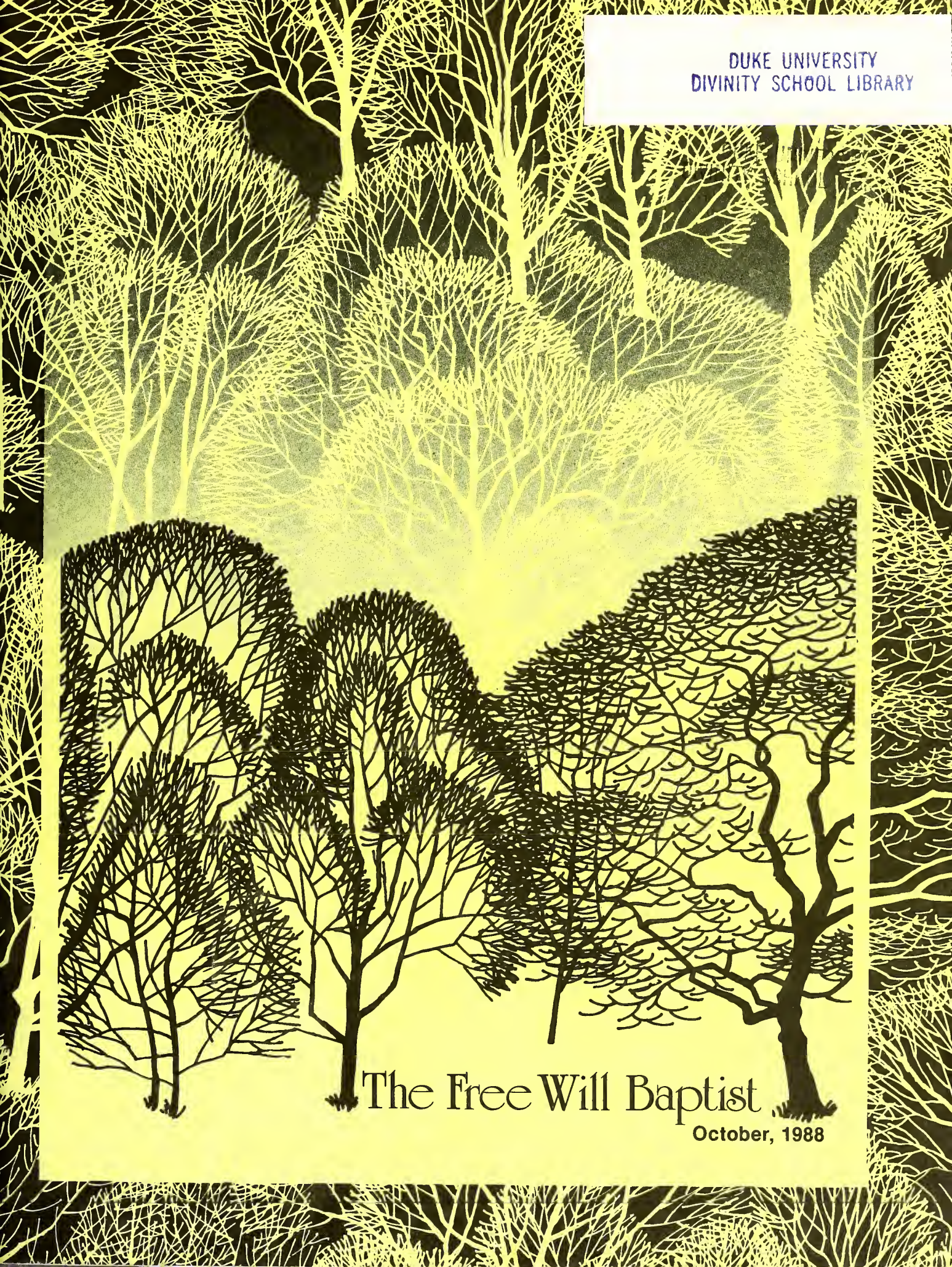
This is to certify that Frank Thigpen voluntarily surrendered his credentials. He is no longer recognized as an ordained minister.

Charlie Overton, *Chairman*
Albemarle Conference Ordination Board

**ANSWERS TO CHILDREN'S CORNER**

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# The Free Will Baptist

October, 1988

The Free Will
# BAPTIST

October, 1988
Vol. 103, No. 10

3 Convention in Retrospect

9 Some Guiding Principles of Our Gifts and Service

12 Meeting Update

13 Make Halloween Fit

14 The Christian Teacher

16 For Parents and Other Human Beings

18 Youth Focus

20 Children's Corner

23 Ministries Update

34 News Briefs

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

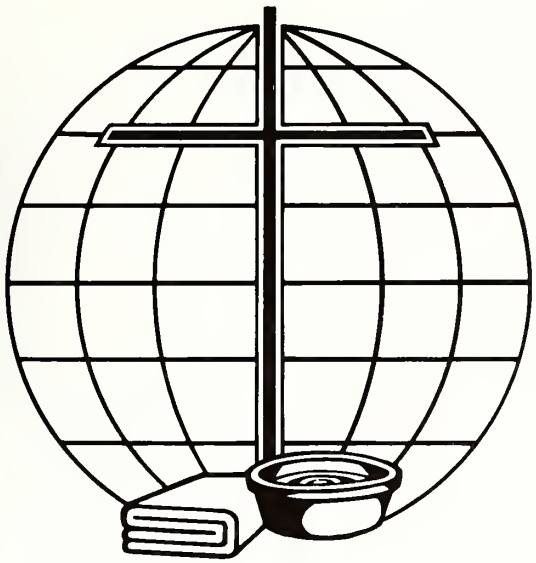
All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; Darrell Horne, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Lynette Summerlin, Carlee Stallard, Carroll Hawkins, Jack Thompson, Gaye Renfrow.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**



# CONVENTION IN RETROSPECT
## (76th Annual Session)

*by the Rev. De Eakes*

The weather was great! The messages were right on target! The music leadership, accompanists, and special music were excellent! The Convention began on a very positive note with the Evangelism Rally on Tuesday evening—challenging messages and inspiring music were enjoyed by a large congregation. Both Convention messages were well done and well received by the Convention. The prayer breakfast and devotional leaders did an excellent job. Our annual Missions Rally was a huge success as usual. There was a large crowd in excess of 700, with an offering of over $33,000. All appointed committees worked hard with positive results for the Convention. Ministers and delegates were very co-operative and a good spirit of harmony and good-will was the pervasive atmosphere. Even the debates surrounding the various resolutions were conducted in a very positive Christian manner. Everyone is to be commended for an excellent 76th Session of the Convention.

My personal thanks are hereby publicly expressed to all program personalities, appointed committee persons, all our ministry leaders for their contribution to the Convention, to the members of the Executive Committee of the Convention for their work throughout the year, and a special thanks to all the College personnel for their help and the fine hospitality shown us during the Convention.

The theme for our Convention and for our work this year was/is "Gifts for Service." During this Convention/church year, 1988-89, let us seriously commit ourselves and all of the "gifts" we enjoy of God's providential grace to the work of building His kingdom on earth!

---

Let me share the Credentials Committee report with you from our Convention:

| | Ministers on Roll | Ministers in Attendance | Possible Delegates | Delegates in Attendance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Albemarle | 12 | 4 | 24 | 20 |
| Cape Fear | 50 | 24 | 59 | 26 |
| Central | 57 | 43 | 110 | 50 |
| Eastern | 106 | 54 | 150 | 57 |
| Pee Dee | 30 | 7 | 26 | 16 |
| Piedmont | 39 | 8 | 19 | 4 |
| Western | 90 | 49 | 107 | 60 |
| | 384 | 189 | 395 | 233 |

As you can see another 162 delegates and 195 ministers were entitled to register and participate in the Convention. A total of 505 persons registered for the Convention. Each minister who registered will receive a copy of the *1989 Yearbook.* Also two copies of the *1989 Yearbook* will be mailed to every church clerk for whom our Convention office has an address.

Our attendance was okay; however, this is certainly one major area of needed improvement. Ministers need to make both Conference and State Convention attendance a high priority! This is a part of your role as a congregational leader. Our laity need to take more seriously the Conference and State Convention sessions. If your minister and delegates are not in attendance your voice and contribution to our government system as a denomination is lost! The Convention needs your participation and you need the *information, inspiration,* and *fellowship!* Let us covenant together to have full delegations from each of our churches for the Convention next year.

The reports of our various ministry and auxiliary programs were both informative and challenging. The funding requests for 1987-1988 were $1,832,338. During 1986-87, we gave $1,403,218; this year we gave $1,350,561, for a *decrease* in giving to our ministry programs of $52,657! Our budget requests for 1988-89 are $1,865,665. I believe we need to re-examine our *stewardship* practices as a part of our *discipleship commitment!* Our ministry programs depend on us for financial support. They can only move forward as we allow them to do so by our constant prayer and gift support. Truly we need to pray for revival across our entire denomination!

Please allow these figures and statistics to be a challenge to you to do more for our Lord through our ministry programs. I am convinced that as Original Free Will Baptists we have only begun to "scratch the surface" of what God has called us to do (mission) as a part of His church! We need to develop a positive, bold and sensitive *witness;* we need to stress *discipleship commitment* of every Original Free Will Baptist; and we need to cultivate and practice a faith-based *stewardship* of all God's rich *Gifts for Service!*

The announcement was made at the Convention that the long-awaited roadside type church directional signs are now available. The signs are 18" x 24", white baked on enamel with the denominational logo in blue, yellow and black, and the words "Original Free Will Baptist Church" in black, with a black border screen-printed on the signs. The cost is $23 per sign. Your church name and an arrow pointing in the appropriate direction can be added for an additional $17 per sign (this has to be hand-lettered, thus the higher charge). You may purchase the signs either with or without your church name. Please send all sign orders to: North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist, Headquarters Office, Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513. Make your checks payable to: North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Your orders will be processed and shipped to you as quickly as possible!

The following are recommendations from our various ministry programs:

**STATE CONVENTION:**

1. Continue to designate August as State Convention month. Pray for revival throughout the Convention.

Below you will find a list of contributions from our churches for 1987-88 and Budget Requests of our ministry programs for 1988-89. Please read this carefully, prayerfully and then do something about it in your local church!

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS**

| Ministry | 1987-88 Contributions | 1988-89 Requests | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| State Convention | $ 10,967 | $ 18,000 | 1.0% |
| Ministers' Program | 21,963 | 23,000 | 1.2% |
| Retirement Homes | 29,963 | 35,612 | 1.9% |
| Cragmont | 122,603 | 120,000 | 6.4% |
| Home Missions | 142,134 | 170,600 | 9.1% |
| Children's Home | 220,631 | 225,000 | 12.1% |
| Foreign Missions | 314,554 | 333,453 | 17.9% |
| Mount Olive College | 487,746 | 940,000 | 50.4% |
| TOTAL | $1,350,561 | $1,865,665 | 100.0% |

The above information was obtained from a compilation of the reports in the Convention Program Book. It is given to provide a total picture of the denominational support. In order to meet this projected budget, Original Free Will Baptists will have to increase overall denominational support by a little over 38%.

2. Receive a special offering for the State Convention the last Sunday in August.
3. Each church reach for the goal of $1 per member as Convention support each year.
4. Each church pay the registration fees for minister(s) and delegates.
5. Each church represent at the Annual Session of the State Convention with a full delegation.
6. Help us work toward building enough support for employing a "General Secretary" for the Convention.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS:**
1. Every Original Free Will Baptist faithfully pray for revival and the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
2. The months of December and March continue to be designated as "Foreign Missions Months" in our State Convention Calendar.
3. Support the 1988-89 budget.

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE:**
1. That Original Free Will Baptists pray for the success and continued growth and development of the College.
2. That we cooperate, on a Conference level, with the new director of the Education for Christian Ministries' Program.
3. Support the 1988-89 budget.

**CHILDREN'S HOME**
1. The Convention continue to designate May and November as Children's Home Months and recommend that our churches observe Children's Home Days on November 13, 1988, and May 14, 1989.
2. The Convention and member churches pray for the ministry of the Children's Home.
3. Support the 1988-89 budget.

**RETIREMENT HOMES:**
1. Convention designate January as Retirement Homes Month and Sunday, January 28, as Retirement Homes Sunday in all its member churches.
2. Encourage gift support for the 1988-89 budget.
3. Request all Convention churches to use Retirement Homes promotional materials in their churches during the month of January and throughout the year.

**HOME MISSIONS:**
1. Support the 1988-89 budget.
2. The Convention continue to designate April and September as Home Missions and Evangelism months.
3. That the Convention recognize the importance of the All-Night Prayer Service and encourage ministers and laymen to attend.
4. That the Convention continue its prayer and financial support of this ministry.

**MINISTERS' PROGRAM:**
1. That October be designated as Ministers' Program Month.
2. That the second Sunday in February be designated as Former Pastor's Sunday and the third Sunday in June be observed as Ministers' Program Sunday.
3. The continued prayers and support of the Convention and its member churches.

**CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION:**
1. The prayer support of our churches for this ministry.
2. The investment of funds with Church Finance to insure availability of funding loan requests.
3. Purchase of membership at $50 each.

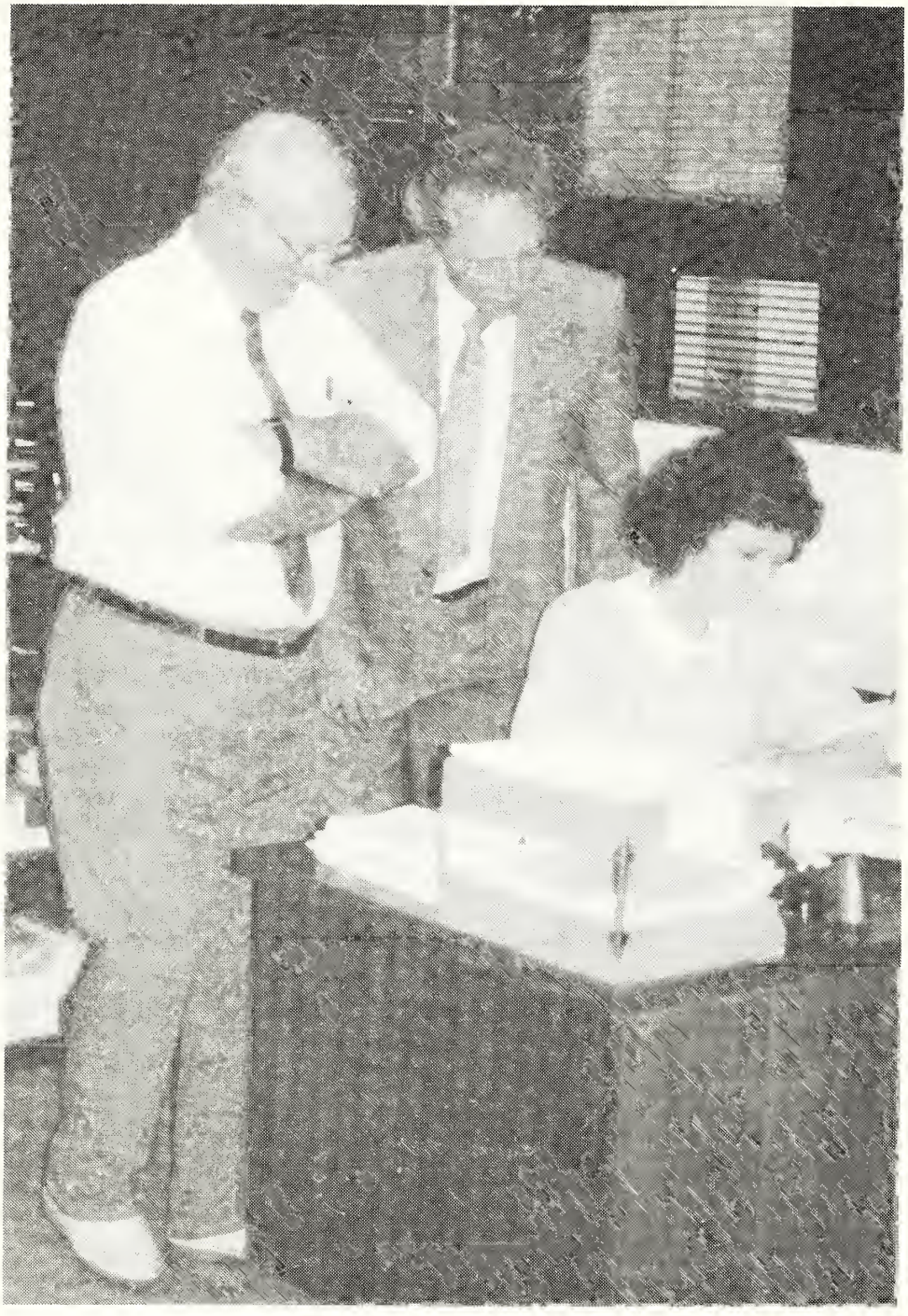
**FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS:**
1. That churches, auxiliaries and organizations purchase memberships at $25 each.
2. That Free Will Baptists patronize our Press for church supplies and printing needs, and patronize our bookstores.
3. That Free Will Baptists use our Sunday School and League materials.
4. That our people subscribe to *The Free Will Baptist.*
5. That we all pray for the growth of this ministry.

**CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY:**
1. Pray for the growth and development of the entire ministry and especially the new camping ministry.
2. For the greater use of the facilities by Original Free Will Baptists.
3. For the continued "spiritual blessings" of Cragmont's ministry.
4. Support the 1988-89 budget.

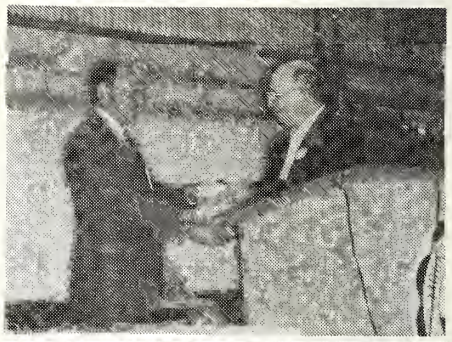
These ministries give us extended opportunities for service. Let us respond by committing our varied and wonderful *gifts for service.* May God guide, direct and bless all of our ministries. God grant that all of our churches will evaluate their programs, improve and change as needed and move forward in using our "Gifts for Service."



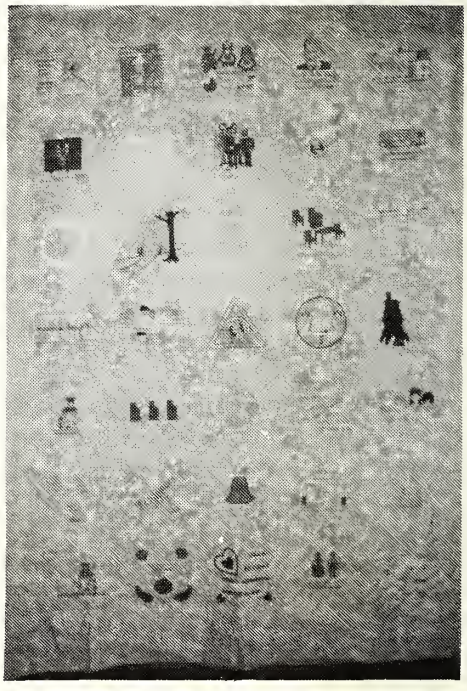
The Rev. De Wayne Eakes serves as President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He is pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama, NC.







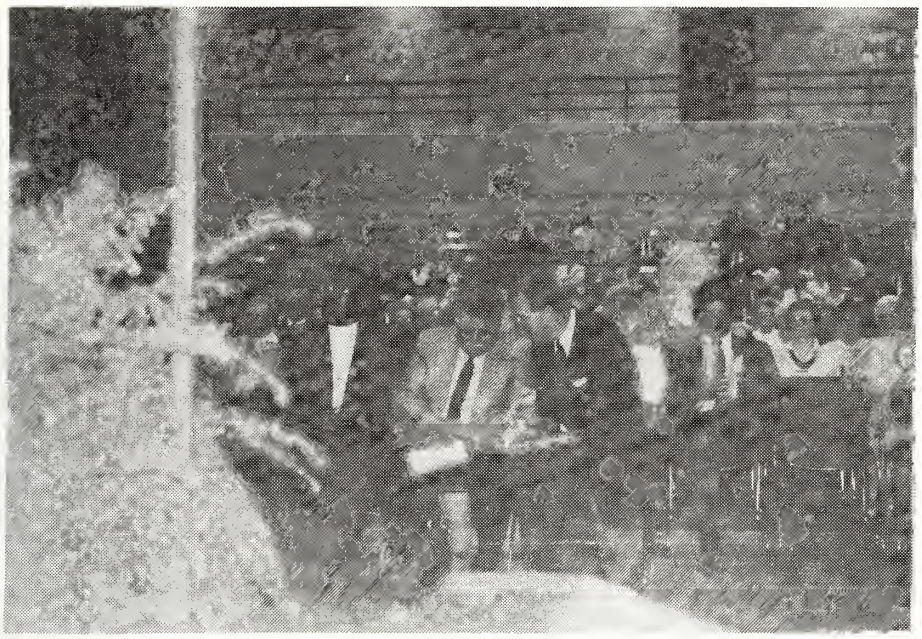


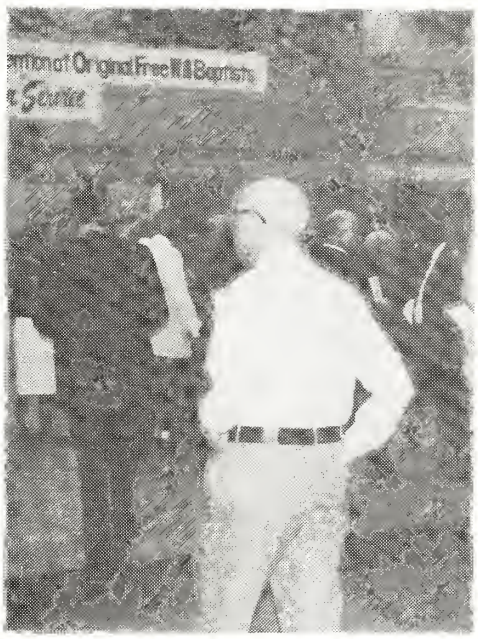


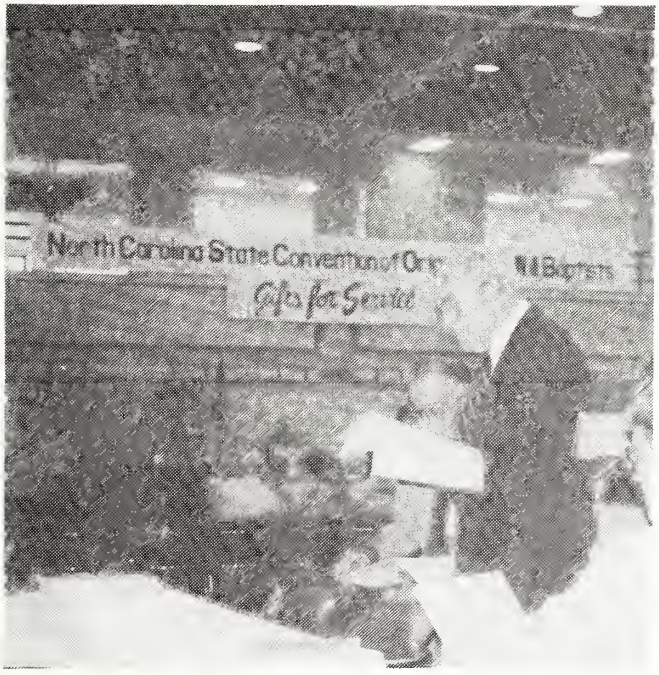
Have you ever had to make arrangements for conventions that run on for days? Have you ever tried to accommodate hundreds of folks, all who wanted or needed different things—right now? At the last minute people ask for the impossible—steps, typing, air conditioning, extra sound equipment . . . . Have you ever had to listen to complaints and commands—and smile? Have you mastered the impossible?

Well, Dr. Thomas Johnson, Cole Jacobs and Olivia Raper Best have. They do these things so much they have become second nature to them. This three-person team works in College Hall, the Athletic/Physical Education/Convention Center which provides space for educational, cultural, civic, and religious events at Mount Olive College. Dr. Johnson serves as vice president of Student Affairs. Mr. Jacobs is director of College Hall. And Olivia Best is secretary for Student Affairs and Athletics. (She schedules the use of College Hall.)

Many of us have come to know these three well and we know the important role they play. Tom, Cole, Olivia, please know we appreciate all you do for us. Thank you!













The State Convention office has available the following:

| | |
|---|---|
| *1988 Yearbooks* | $5 each |
| 1988 Convention Program Books | $5 each |
| Logo Lapel Pins | $4 each |

Send order and funds to the following address: Treasurer, North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.



**North Carolina State Convention**

**of Original Free Will Baptists**

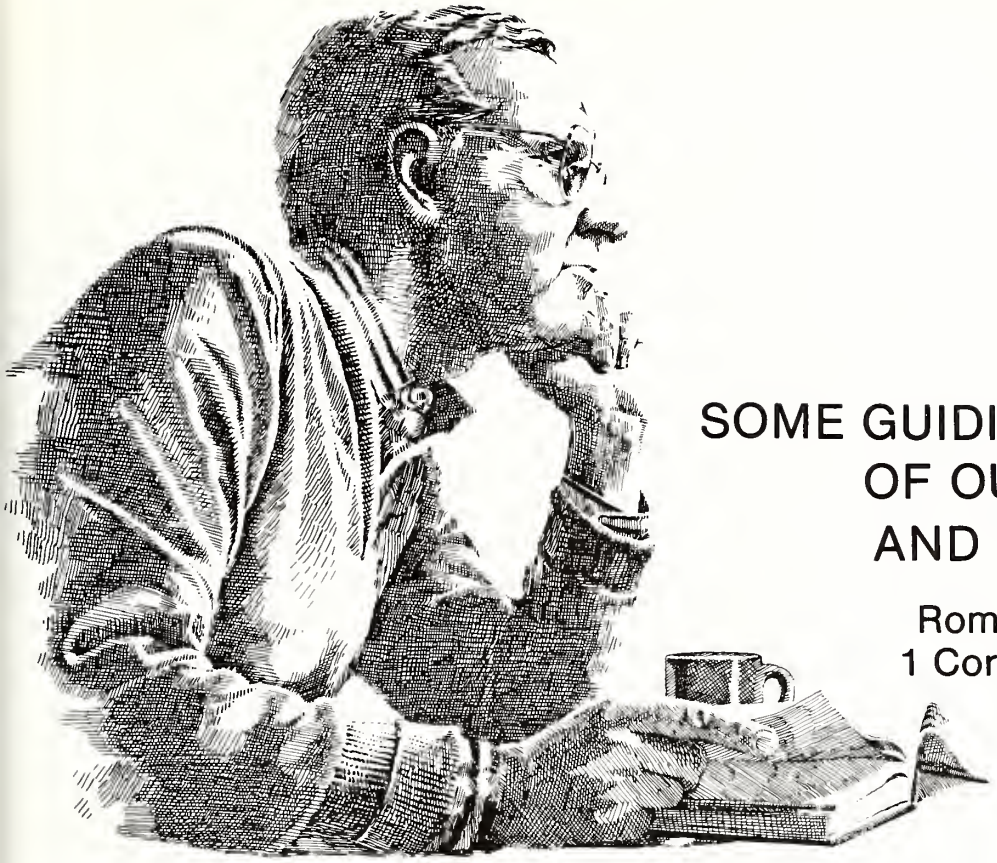
Called to Serve
1985-86

Preparing to Serve
1986-87

Opportunities for Service
1987-88

Gifts for Service
1988-89

Servant of All
1989-90



# SOME GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF OUR GIFTS AND SERVICE

Romans 12:1-2
1 Corinthians 12

*by the Rev. John Williams*

The theme for this year's convention is "Gifts for Service." Many sermons could be written on both "gifts" and "service." I have tried to narrow the subject to "Some Guiding Principles of Gifts and Service." Certainly I would not suggest to you that these are the only or all of the guiding principles; however, they are some of the more important ones.

In the Scripture reading, Paul suggests to us that all gifts are from God and that they are to be used for His service. In our day, gifts to be used for service have been defined as things like preaching, teaching, writing, singing; and the list could go on. Perhaps we should redefine our idea of the gifted to include the carpenter, the mason, the painter, people who use their hands as well as their mental abilities.[1]

Paul stresses that there are a variety of gifts given by God for His service. The gifts are diverse. We are not equally endowed. We have not earned these gifts. And we are not to wallow around in pride thinking we have a better gift than someone else. God gave us these gifts in the hope that we would work together using our gifts to render service to the world.[2]

Now let us turn our thoughts to the guiding principles that must undergird our gifts and service. We all have gifts given to us by God. But I think that there must be some prerequisites, some guiding principles that will keep us going on the right path. There are only three I wish to discuss here now: (1) We must be committed; (2) we must be united; (3) we must be passionate.

**1. We Must Be Radically Committed**

What good are our gifts if we are not committed? To understand how committed we should be, I would like to refer to a few passages of Scripture. Paul, in Romans 12:1, "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." In Luke 9:24, Jesus said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

The point of these verses and others similar to them is that the expectations of our Lord for those who would follow Him are high and demanding. What our Lord is talking about here is giving up self. It means that we reorder our priorities. We are no longer trying to satisfy ourselves. A life that was once bent on self-satisfaction, dominated by self-love, and directed by self-will is now directed by God. What we are talking about here is radical discipleship.[3]

In his book *The Cost of Discipleship,* Dietrich Bonhoeffer called it "costly grace." He said, "Grace is costly because it calls us to follow . . . It is costly because it costs a man his life."[4] In understanding radical discipleship, we must take seriously the command of our Lord to "follow." Jesus said,

(Turn the Page)

"Follow." He did not ask what we think about theology, women ministering in the church, or how we feel about the inspiration of the Scriptures. He did not look for any of those kinds of labels that we use on people today. All He said to those first disciples was "Follow me." Jesus wanted them to recognize Him as the leader. This means that we accept the fact that we are finite. It means that we must recognize that we need to be mastered.

Of course we are not so quick to accept such a simple notion. We say, "Lord, first let me bury my father or spend some time with my new bride, or test my new oxen." His answer is "No." Jesus is not going to lower the demands to get half-hearted, partially committed followers.[5]

In radical discipleship we come, we follow and then we will see. Do you remember the time Jesus was asked by two of John's disciples as to where He (Jesus) lived? Jesus said, "Come and see" (John 1:39). I do not want to read anything into the Scriptures. However, the writer seems to suggest that one must obey or follow and then he will see. Follow and things will fall into place. That is radical discipleship.

We live in an age that places great value on money, things and achievements. The question that Jesus is asking is, "Do you love me more than these?" In Mark 10:17, Jesus was asked by a rich young ruler, "Good Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus' response was, "Go sell what you have, and come, follow me" (v. 21). Jesus was testing the young man's earnestness and readiness to accept His terms for service.[6]

There are those who complain about the demands our Lord puts upon their lives. They must be deficient in their commitment. They must lack a proper understanding of the Gospels, lack the will to obey the Lord's demands. To follow Christ means that I bring every moment of my life under His discipline. We are not talking here of occasional acts of piety or momentary bursts of enthusiasm, but a steadfast loyalty to Christ.[7]

A woman asked her minister, "Will you please tell me what your idea of commitment is?" Holding out a blank sheet of paper, the minister said, "It is to sign your name at the bottom of this blank sheet and let God fill it in as He wills."[8]

**2. We Must Be United**

Sally said to Linus, "I would have made a good evangelist. You know that boy who sits behind me at school? I convinced him that my religion is better than his religion." "How'd you do that?" asked Linus. "I hit him with my lunch box."[9]

Although we do not literally hit each other with our lunch boxes, we do so verbally. The idea is touted that if there is to be unity then we must all think alike. In other words, if we are going to be united then we must conform.

I do not believe that this is Paul's thinking. In the Scripture reading, Paul is having to deal with a situation which has caused a great deal of problems for the church at Corinth. Some of the Christians there were said to have the gift of speaking in tongues. It was their idea that speaking in tongues was some sort of sign or test of their faithfulness. They thought that everyone should speak in tongues. They wanted a church for tongues speakers only. In other words, they wanted everyone to conform to their thinking.

Paul, in verse 12, strives to help them understand that we must be united. He stated that the body is one. It has many members but it is one body. He listed all the parts—the ear, the eye, the hand, and so on. There are many parts but they are united in one body. All the parts need each other. They do not serve the same function, so they must be united if the work is to be done.

Paul stressed that the same is true with the church. We do not have the same gifts for service. We have different abilities and will serve in different ways. We must unite ourselves.

We as Free Will Baptists have decided that we will serve our Lord in a certain way and we have defined that way. However, I wonder if we are as united as we should be. Too much of the time I have the feeling we are competing with one another as to how we should use our gifts for service. I believe this competing has had a destructive effect on our denomination. It has led to splits in our churches and in our friendships as Christians. Competition is a worldly notion that has crept over into our church life.

In life, competition abounds. We compete for jobs. In school, we compete for grades. As athletes, we compete for the trophy. As a denomination, we are competing by thinking that my group is more important than your group. My task is more important than your task. All this may sound ridiculous, but it *has* happened and it *is* happening.

We *can* continue to hit each other over the head with our lunch boxes. If we do this, then the strong group will win and the losing group will just sit around, their gifts ignored. When one group wins, they are likely to tell the other group to take their marbles and play somewhere else. I must admit that some groups are so diverse in their thinking and beliefs from Free Will Baptist tenets that we cannot come to an understanding and work together. But let us be careful lest we cut off a vital part of our body. We should talk to each other. We might find that we are closer to one another than we originally thought.

I am afraid that if we continue to compete we will forget that we are the body of Christ, His servants. We are diverse but we need to unite to do the great work.[10]

**3. We Must Be Passionate**

"One day an elderly woman went to the post office to buy stamps. As she entered the lobby she noticed a man working. He was installing a new stamp machine. When she arrived at the window she inquired about the work by asking, "What is that thing you are putting in the lobby." The man at the window said, "That is our new stamp machine. You will put your money in and the stamps will come out of the slot. There won't be any long lines any more." The woman looked at the new machine and then turned and asked, "Will it ask about my rheumatism?"[11]

In our world, machines are everywhere, machines that do not know your name but your number. They are so impersonal and cold. As the woman indicated with her question to the man in the post office, there are some things that a machine just cannot do. Our world is in need of passionate Christians. People who will be eager and willing to respond to the needs of others. We need people who are willing to feel.

In verse 31 of our Scripture, Paul talks of our seeking "the best gifts," seeking a "more excellent way." Then in the whole next chapter he spoke of love being the greatest gift.

There are so many needs out there in this world which we can help with. When I say we, I mean the Church. There are people starving, suicide attempts, alcoholism. The list is long. Jesus laid down His life for these people and so should the church in our present day.

In the times of Jesus, there were so many laws that they numbered into the thousands. One day Jesus was asked to identify the greatest of these laws. In Luke 10, Jesus said there were two laws to be considered as the greatest. He said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength." Then, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

There are people around us who are in need. Also, there are people, like you and me, who have the gifts of know-how or perhaps money to help minister to these needs. It was Jesus who said, "I was hungry and you gave me meat: I was thirsty, and you gave me drink: I was a stranger, and you took me in: Naked and you clothed me: I was sick and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came to me" (Matthew 25:35-36). Then He said that the question would be asked, "When did we do all this?" (Matthew 25:38-39). His response was, "In as much as you have done it to one of the least of these my brothers, you have done it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

I believe that with these words the Lord identifies His church as the people who are to respond to these needs. Jesus by His own words has identified all Christians everywhere as the ones who are to respond to these needs. I believe He has identified Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina as those who are to minister to these people.

Certainly there are people who are abusing these kinds of ministries. There are people who are in need but are capable of bettering themselves. True, they would rather sit idle and let someone care for them. We have seen so much of this going on that we have become cold and indifferent. My response to this is that we do have a ministry to them also, one of helping them accept the responsibility for their own well-being. I just can't believe that our loving Lord wants us to ignore them.

All kinds of ministries are out there awaiting our loving, passionate care.

In the New Testament, the Greek word for "romantic love" means taking what you want, but the word meaning "love to God" is different. It means giving. It never takes; it gives and gives without counting the cost or expecting anything in return. That is the love Paul meant in 1 Corinthians 13. That is the love we should have for the community we live in.[12]

Pastors, deacons, teachers, church members, I challenge you to go home and help your church find the way of love, the way of commitment, and be united in your gifts. Then go to work.

**RESOURCES**


1. *The Daily Study Bible, The Letters to the Corinthians,* William Barclay, p. 108.
2. *The Interpreter's Bible,* Vol. 10, pp. 150-151.
3. Ibid.
4. *Pulpit Digest,* Vol. LXV, Number 477, "Radical Discipleship," by Kenneth L. Gibble, pp. 61-64.
5. *The Cost of Discipleship,* Dietrich Bonhoeffer, p. 47
6. *Growing Disciples Through Preaching,* Nolan P. Howington, Alton H. McEachern, William M. Pinson Jr., pp. 18-22.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. *Pulpit Digest,* Vol. LXVI, Number 479, "Unity, Not Conformity," pp. 69-71.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid., Vol. LVII, Number 423, "Passionate Christians," by James W. Turner, p. 65.
12. Ibid., Vol. LVII, Number 423, "Passionate Christians," by James W. Turner, pp. 62-65.





The Rev. John Williams serves as manager of Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, NC. Mr. Williams delivered the above address as the keynote message of the 1988 State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.







# MEETING UPDATE

The annual meeting of those holding memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press was held on Tuesday, September 6, at Ayden Church.

The Rev. Adrian Grubbs, president of the Board, welcomed those present and related happenings of the last twelve months. Mr. Cliff Gray, executive director, introduced employees and Board members. In particular, he expressed appreciation to three retiring Board members: Marice DeBruhl and the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, each having served five years; and the Rev. Billy Hardee, who served seventeen years.

Because the By-laws of the Press were set up so that one-third of the Board could rotate off at one time, making it possibly detrimental to the work of the Foundation, the By-laws were changed as follows:

> Section 1. *Number and Term of Office.* There shall be nine directors who shall be elected as specified hereafter: there shall be nine directors elected at the annual membership meeting of 1988: One shall be elected for a five-year term, two for a four-year term, two for a three-year term, two for a two-year term, and two for a one-year term. Thereafter, at the expiration of the term of a director, a director shall hold office until his/her successor is elected. All directors elected after the annual meeting of 1988 shall hold office for a five-year term. A director may serve two consecutive terms. After a one-year absence from the board, the director may be elected for another five-year term.

Those elected to the Board were: Gaye Renfrow, 1993; Carroll Hawkins and Jack Thompson, 1992; Lynette Sumerlin and the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard, 1991; the Rev. Joe Griffith and Darrell Horne, 1990; Ruth Taylor and the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, 1989.

# MAKE HALLOWEEN FIT FOR CHILDREN, HE SAYS

Mr. Francisco's letter to the editor of the Knoxville, Tennessee, *News-Sentinel* is so wise, sensible, well-meaning, and thought-provoking that it deserves a wider audience. (Reprinted by permission from October 30, 1987, issue.)



**Editor, The News-Sentinel:**

At the risk of being labeled a fanatic, I want to raise some questions about Halloween. We celebrate a number of holidays as a nation. Each of these days is intended to remind us of something important about our identity and our past. Halloween falls among these days, though perhaps at the edge, outside of what anyone would call a national holiday.

Yet, tremendous time and money are spent "celebrating" this day as children are brought under its veil. I believe most people tolerate Halloween, under the guise that it is a fun time for kids. So before any doubts arise, I want to make it clear that I'm 100 percent in favor of celebration. There are many things worth rejoicing over. At their best, holidays revive important feelings and qualities in people.

Then there is Halloween, a curious deviant of a day, which nonetheless, like all holidays, stirs up the human spirit. Here is where I cease to understand our tolerance, much less indulgence in a tradition which clearly celebrates fear. I wonder if we are able to demonstrate enough backbone to say, "This holiday needs to be reshaped. Let's give future generations of children a clear message. If it's fun and celebration we want for them, why should we allow the mixing of opposite themes like death, fear, and witchcraft to be mingled with this day."

Halloween at its worse is an annual binge in the grotesque imagery of violence and death. Let's face it; Halloween is out of line with our real intent to create a special time for children.

From the recurrent episodes of violence against trick-or-treaters to the community problems of power outages and distruction of personal property, Halloween shows its real fruit.

I would like to leave you with this thought. Are we hopelessly subject to this holiday or are we capable of changing it into a clear expression of celebration? Can we keep the worthwhile traditions and oust the bad? Here's one more vote for making Halloween into something fit for children.

Ben Francisco
Seymour



# USING QUESTIONS IN TEACHING

*by Bass Mitchell*

The question is one of the best teaching methods you can use. Indeed, it was a favorite method for Jesus. Read through the Gospels sometime and note how Jesus used questions in His teaching.

The question method is so good because it gets persons involved. It allows the teacher to see what the students are learning, as well as determine if they have understood and applied what they are learning. Not only this, it's a great way to discover what they think and how they feel. It's a way to allow them to teach with you.

### KINDS OF QUESTIONS

There are two basic types of questions. One deals with facts and information. Its purpose is to determine what the class knows about a particular topic. Some examples of the fact type question are: Where in the Bible do you find the Ten Commandments? What's the first commandment? To whom did God first give the commandments?

The other kind of question calls for more reflection and thought. It seeks to get opinions, views, and to deepen their understanding of a biblical truth. Some examples are: Why do bad things happen to good people? Why go to church? Is America a Christian nation? Why or why not? What does it mean to be a "peacemaker?"

### A QUESTION SHEET

This is an idea that really helps me. As you're preparing for the lesson or a Bible study, get out a sheet of paper. On one side write "Fact Questions." On the other write "Thought Questions." Write down the questions that come to you as you study and prepare. Later they can be incorporated into your teaching outline.

Here's a little exercise for you. Look at the next Sunday School lesson. Identify some fact type questions and the thought kind that you could use in the teaching session.

Now here are some pointers on using questions.

### MASTER THE MATERIAL

If the questions are to be good and relevant

ones, then you must really know the lesson. Be thoroughly familiar with the Scripture passage and the main theme of the lesson. When you master the material, you'll find that questions just naturally arise.

### PLAN YOUR QUESTIONS

Asking good questions takes thought and careful preparation. Do not wait until the actual session to put your questions into words. Plan them ahead of time.

Perhaps you have been in a class when it was obvious that the teacher had not prepared the questions. The questions were unclear and the class didn't really know what was being asked.

Write out your questions as part of your lesson preparation. Note where and when you will use them in your session.

### BE BRIEF AND CLEAR

"What are the eschatalogical teachings set forth in the Pauline epistles to the Thessalonians?"

You're not likely to get much from questions like that but really strange looks.

Do not use long questions with difficult words. Use words they understand in as short a question as possible.

Here's how you could ask the question above. "What does Paul teach about the future in 1 Thessalonians 4?"

### AVOID "YES" or "NO" QUESTIONS

Why? Because they stimulate little thought and even less discussion.

Now you can use it if you ask a follow-up question. For example, "Do you think America is a Christian nation?" When they say "Yes" or "No," then you ask, "Why?" or "Why not?"

### USE MORE THOUGHT QUESTIONS

It's easy to just use the factual kinds. But that can make them feel like they're taking a test!

Work really hard to come up with good thought questions and use them often. Such questions can stimulate discussion and in-depth examination of relevant issues. Thought questions will help bring out their real feelings, needs, problems, and opinions in light of biblical truths. Whenever that happens, there's a greater possibility for significant learning to take place.

### BE INCLUSIVE

You know those persons in your class who you can always count on to answer questions. Without knowing it, you can rely on them to the exclusion of others. So try to include every member when you ask questions.

Every person needs to feel a part of the class and that they have something to contribute. Many are shy and reluctant to share their thoughts. Questions used properly can affirm them and get their valuable input.

You are right in being careful about this. Some persons embarrass easily. So ask a question and get the discussion started. Then seek to involve the shy ones.

I remember a lesson in which we talked about those times when it seems that God is no where to be found. Several persons shared experiences relating to that. Then I quietly asked one of our shy ones, "Cathy, have you ever felt that way?" She said, "Yes." Then I gently asked, "When? Would you share it with us?" She did.

### GIVE THEM TIME

When you ask a question, give them time to think about it and answer. That's one of the most difficult things for many teachers to do. The silence after a question can be deafening!

Many thought-provoking questions have been laid to rest because teachers could not wait or bear that silence. You know what happens. They answer it themselves!

Give them twenty to thirty seconds. Then, if you have no answer, restate the question or call on someone. For example, "Jim, what do you think?" You will be able to tell who is ready to answer. They may need just a little incentive from you.

### LISTEN

Once you've asked a question and someone is answering, be a good listener. Give that person your undivided attention.

Why? Well, think for a moment what it's like to be talking with someone who is not really listening to you. How does that make you feel? Then think about how good it makes you feel when someone really listens to you.

Also, that person may bring out an insight you hadn't seen or some point that can lead to meaningful discussion. You don't want to miss those opportunities.

### AFFIRM THEM

Once they've answered, affirm them for sharing. Show that you appreciate and value their input. Try to find something in their response you can elaborate on and affirm, even if the answer is a little off base.

Using questions in teaching isn't easy. It's even a little risky, for you give up a little control and never know what answers you'll get. But the potential benefits in learning far outweigh the risks and justify the preparation time required.

# STRENGTHENING FAMILIES— SCOUTING CAN HELP



*by R. Chip Turner,*
*ABS Executive Committee Member*

The concept of family is as old as creation. The family and the church (the family of God) have sought to preserve the sanctity of the family.

On the other hand, some societal pressures have contributed to the disintegration of many families. Spiraling divorce rates have touched virtually every home, directly or indirectly, through relationships with friends and family members.

Strengthening families has never been a greater priority than it is today. Moreover, with the proliferation of many one-parent families within the reach of churches, the challenge of ministering to individuals in families is greater.

Scouting is a tool that helps churches strengthen families. Since principles of the Boy

Scouts of America are based on the highest virtues of duty to God and country, it is not surprising that support of families is integral to the program. Scouting is a resource designed to help churches and institutions accomplish their goals of reaching and teaching youth, thus becoming a natural supporter of the family.

A simple acrostic illustrates some ways in which Scouting undergirds the church's commitment to families:

**F—Fellowship With Other Families.** Opportunities for families to share meaningful experiences with other families is built into Scouting.

**A—Activities for Families.** Throughout all levels of Scouting, activities are provided for families. For instance, Cub Scouts and their fathers have an opportunity to participate in father-son weekends at the local Scout camp. Or, the entire family may enjoy a Cub Scout blue and gold banquet. Progress through the various Scouting ranks requires parental participation. (Of course, Scouting leaders may find themselves serving as role models for children in one-parent families.)

**M—Moral Teachings.** Scouting recgnizes the family and church as the primary sources of moral teachings. Yet, Scouting undergirds these teachings through its high principles. Youth learn some of the "whys" through Scouting. The God and Country religious emblems recognitions, a religious education program prepared by church leaders for Scouts, not only brings youth into contact with church leaders but also with parents who serve as religious advisers.

**I—Individualized Attention.** Throughout the advancement in Scouting, parents are called upon to give one-on-one attention to their Scout(s). Tiger Cubs, BSA, for first-grade boys, is designed for boys and their adult partners.

**L—Learning Together.** Parents and their Scout(s) working together on advancement or special unit projects enjoy shared learning experiences which deepen their feelings of love and appreciation for one another.

**Y—Youth Oriented.** Scouting is based on the needs and interests of youth. Parents may learn more about how to meet these needs and interests while participating in the program, thus strengthening family bonds.

The letters above spell FAMILY. Each activity can be a positive contributor to strengthening families. But, are they merely words or lofty goals? No. Scouting has a workable implementation plan. An overview of a few Scouting publications offers some insight:

*Building Parent and Family Participation*—guidelines for encouraging family involvement in the life of a Cub Scout.

*Cub Scout Family Book*—suggestions for improving relationships within a family and suggestions on how Cub Scouting can help.

*Family Activity Packet*—idea starters for Tiger Cubs and their parents.

*Family Forum*—an in-depth project on strengthening families.

*Youth Frontiers—Making Ethical Decisions*—a manual for parents, youth, and leaders.

*Introduction to Family Camping*—an information guide with how-tos and other helpful hints on family camping.

*Family Camping Directory*—a listing of Scout facilities where families can go camping together.

*Boy Scouts of America Supports the Family*—a leaflet stressing that strengthening families is a Scouting priority.

*Family Fiesta*—A guidebook of family-oriented activities and responses to a recent study showing that 82 percent of parents prefer having their son(s) take part in family activities.

*Prepared for Today*—a manual that addresses the latchkey children who stay home alone. *Prepared for Today* has already been credited with saving lives and preventing serious injuries.

*Family Living Skills Book*—a booklet for Scouts, which emphasizes the family and the role a Scout should play in it.

*God and Me*—a religious emblem program for younger Cub Scouts.

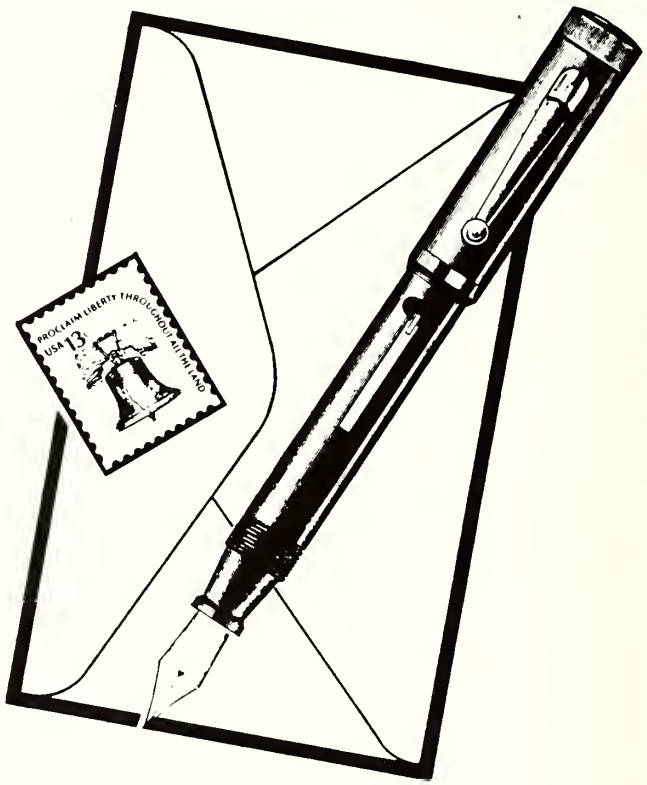
*God and Family* (older Cub Scouts), *Baptist God and Country* (Boy Scouts), *God and Church* (Boy Scouts), and *God and Life* (Explorers)—the religious emblems program is for parents, Scouts, religious advisers, and pastors.

Strengthening families is a priority for Christians. Scouting can help with supportive materials and a plan of action.

If your church has Scouting units, encourage Scouting leaders in their roles as family supporters. If your church does not have Scouting units, ask yourself if it could use this tool to help undergird the families on your church roll and prospect list.

—For more information about Scouting, contact the North Carolina State Convention Scouting Commission, the Rev. David C. Hansley, Chairman.

# LEARNING TO SERVE




Paul's letter to the Ephesians was to bring awareness of mission needs. ". . . that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts" (Ephesians 6:22).

Awareness brings one's mission vision into focus. Awareness enables one to pray, to see a need for giving, and to be serious about surrendering to God's call. Christians are usually spurred to interest when they see a genuine need (human emptiness and despair). They are moved when they see God working in the lives of others.

For the next several months, we will look at different ways that young people can serve others. When your church group does something special, write and tell us about it. (Don't forget to send pictures!) Send your articles to Janie Jones Sowers, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

## THE AGING—PART 2

### PROJECT SUGGESTIONS

*Visit the Aging*—Do not be afraid or hesitant to share yourself with the older person. If you will talk freely to him about your interests, hobbies, and family, he will be much more likely to share himself. Through this mutual sharing a deep relationship can develop. Within such a relationship you can become aware of and seek to meet his real needs. Such a relationship also makes it easy for you to talk about Christ and what He means to your life.

*Start a Library Service*—Some older people enjoy reading. Others cannot read because of failing eyesight but enjoy being read to. Some never learned how to read. You may need to check out books from your church library or a public library and then return them. You will soon learn what kinds of books your friend prefers.

In an institution you may be able to use a pushcart to distribute reading material to the patients.

*Send Cards or Letters*—A card with a thoughtful message or a letter can brighten an entire day for an older person. Use special occasions such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day, Easter, or Christmas to send greetings. But remember that cards coming at unexpected times are perhaps even more appreciated.

If your friend has received several cards at one time, as when he has been hospitalized or had a birthday, he may like to have a scrapbook in

which to place them. Place sheets of typing paper in a colored folder such as you use at school, or make covers from bright shades of construction paper. Furnish glue or tape.

*Help Write Letters*—Your older friend may need you to write letters for him. He may dictate to you or he may ask you to use your own words. Always read a letter back to him to be sure you have put down exactly what he wanted said. Remember that he is trusting you with a very personal service and the contents of the letters must not be shared with anyone.

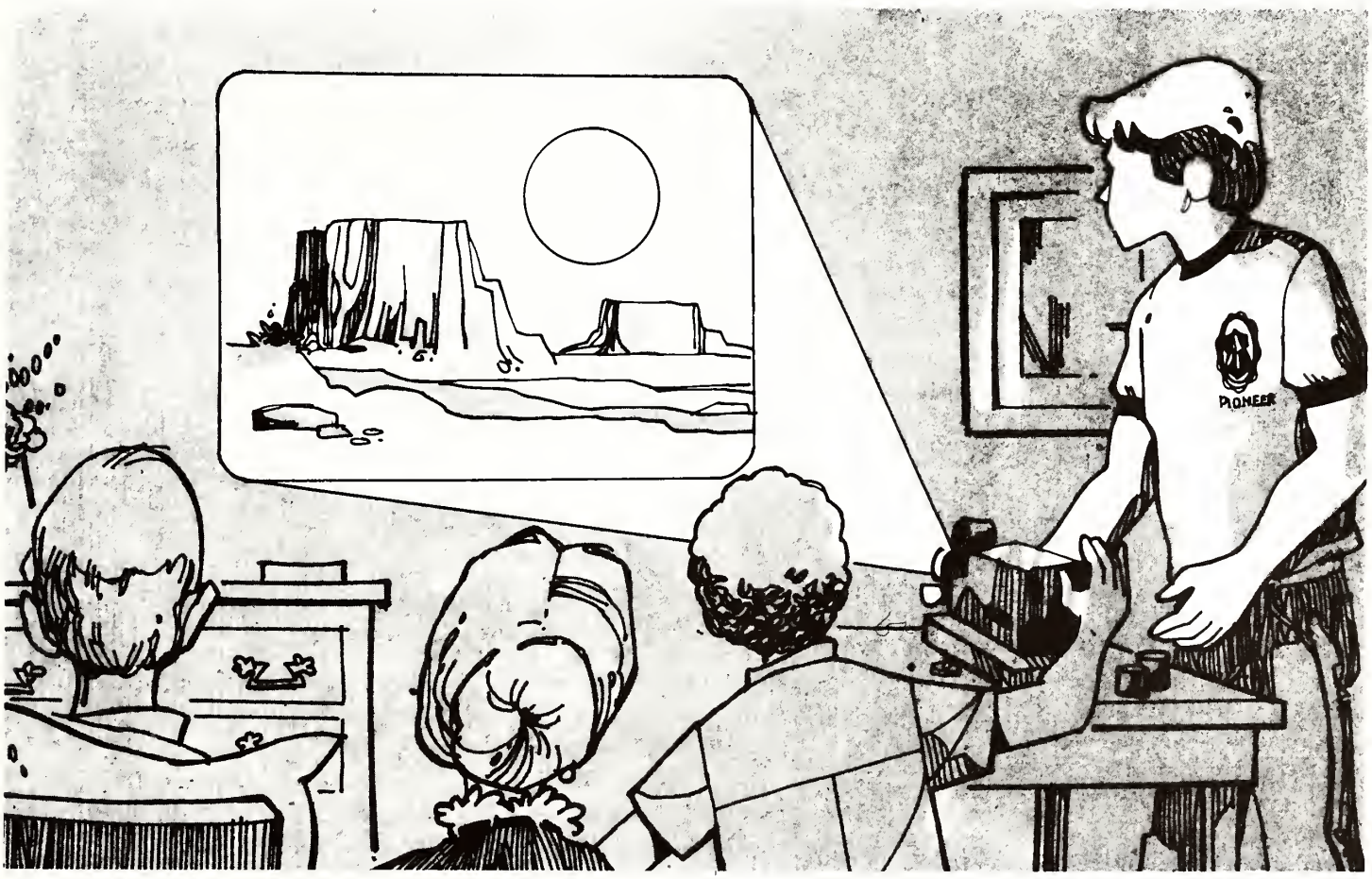
*Providing Writing Materials*—If the aging person can write by himself, provide stationery or a tablet and pen. A book of stamps or stamped envelopes would be appreciated.

*Record Church Services*—People confined to their homes could have a worship experience by listening to a recording of a church service. This would be especially nice around Christmas or Easter. Arrange with your pastor to tape the service. Take the recording to the shut-in's home and play it for him. If he wants to sing the hymns, sing with him. Help him find the Scripture passages in his Bible. Share your impressions of the service with him.

*Show Filmstrips or Slides*—If the older person has adequate eyesight he would enjoy filmstrips or slides. Your church may have some filmstrips on nature or other subjects which would be interesting. Some strips are accompanied by a record which gives appropriate narration. Your church also may have a filmstrip projector which you may borrow. When you check out the equipment, ask someone to show you how to operate it if you do not already know.

Someone in your group may have slides of interesting vacation places which would interest your friend. Remember, he may tire easily or his interest span may be brief.

*Give Large Print Bible*—Older persons sometimes have difficulty reading small print. Order large print Bible portions (available at a nominal cost from the American Bible Society, P.O. Box 5656, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017). Those portions available are Psalms 03590; Proverbs 03600; Matthew 03540; Mark 03550; Luke 03560; John 03570; The Acts 03580. A New Testament with the Psalms is also available in extra large print. Specify KJ393, hard cloth binding. Order from the Free Will Baptist Press, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.





# A WONDERFUL PROMISE

The Book of Acts tells us how the church first began. In the first chapter, we read about a promise that Jesus made to His disciples before His Ascension (when Jesus went up into Heaven). This was an extremely important promise. Below are seven scrambled words. Using the clues, unscramble them in the space provided and then place the numbered letters in the corresponding numbered blanks at the bottom. When you finish, you will have the promise that Jesus made and when the realization of it took place.

| | | **CLUES** |
|---|---|---|
| TICHNOA | _ _ _ _ _ _ _<br>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | (City in which the disciples were first called Christians—Acts 11:26) |
| PREET | _ _ _ _ _<br>8 9 10 11 12 | (Disciple who preached when 3,000 souls were saved—Acts 2:14) |
| YMTIHOT | _ _ _ _ _ _ _<br>13 14 15 16 17 18 19 | (Son of a Jewish mother and a Greek father—Acts 16:1) |
| HEEPNTS | _ _ _ _ _ _ _<br>20 21 22 23 24 25 26 | (Man who was stoned to death because he believed in Jesus and was not afraid to speak out for Him—Acts 7:59) |
| CARDSO | _ _ _ _ _ _<br>27 28 29 30 31 | (Woman whom Peter raised from the dead—Acts 9:36) |
| EFSO | _ _ _ _<br>32 33 34 | (Enemies—Acts 2:35) |
| BDYLLO | _ _ _ _ _ _<br>35 36 | (How Saul preached—Acts 9:27) |

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Christian Education **UPDATE** Published Quarterly

# New resources for Total Growth Learning® from David C. Cook Publishing Co.

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Lead your 8-11-year-olds in worship and Bible exploration. Here's all it takes to make the Bible come alive—and make worship more understandable! The in-depth leader's guide offers a variety of activities and ways to present Bible stories. Year 2 presents the New Testament chronologically, focusing on the life and work of Jesus. (Year 1 covered the Old Testament.)

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*Epistles of John and Jude:*
*Four Fortresses Against False Faith*
*New Testament Highlights:*
*A Survey From Matthew to Revelation*
*Romans: Let Justice Roll Down*
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*Restoring Righteousness*

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Help hurting people faced with immediate and major personal problems with these new additions to a series that is an effective guide to crisis counseling.

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## Successful Teaching Series

by Lawrence O. Richards _____

Now every teacher can be more successful! Master Christian educator Lawrence O. Richards brings his warm, practical advice to Sunday School teachers and parents in these five easy-to-read books. Each chapter includes "React" questions to think about, and "Act" suggestions that could improve any teacher's ministry.

*Preschool: The Huggable Learners*
*Children: The Lively Learners*
for teachers of elementary children.
*Teens: Giving Youth the Grow-Ahead*
*Teachers: Teaching With Love*
motivating wisdom for all teachers.
*Parents: Round the Clock Teachers*

## Bible Basics Youth Electives

Young people need firm foundations. That means grounding them in the basics with solid, life-changing Bible truths. These topical, 13-week courses are ideal for teaching vital doctrine and practice to teen Sunday School classes and Bible studies.

Sessions are easy to teach, drawing students into discussion-style, in-depth Bible exploration. No student manuals to buy; each course includes its own reproducible *Student Action Sheets*. Teacher background and life response suggestions are also provided.

*GOD: The Awesome Almighty*
*JESUS: The Forever Friend*
*SERVICE: The Joy of Sweat*
*CHURCH: A People, Not a Steeple*
*RELATIONSHIPS: Parents, Peers, and Pests*

# OCTOBER IS MINISTER'S PROGRAM MONTH

*by Donald Fader*

The Minister's Program was established by the State Convention to "provide for aged, retired and infirmed ministers in some form of superannuation program; also, it was to seek to offer to our active ministers some program whereby they may help to provide for their future security and retirement." This is our goal and the reason that we exist. The Minister's Program is the only organization of our State Convention that serves to promote the ministry among our local churches.

**Why does the ministry need promoting?**
The ministry is unique among the work force of our nation. What applies to some usually does not apply to the minister. For example, when most people are paid their check reflects deductions for such things as state and federal taxes and FICA or social security tax. As an employee of a store, company or plant your social security tax is approximately 7.5% but the minister must pay almost 15%. Why is this? It is because although you as a church member consider the minister to be an employee the federal government considers him a self-employed person for FICA tax purposes. Your check may also reflect deductions for retirement which most employers provide but less than 25% of our churches provide retirement for their minister. These examples and others are the reason that we promote the minister and his unique and special needs.

Promotion is only a part of what we do. As is evidenced by the program's purpose there are other services that we provide through your support to the program. The retirement program is one of the services that we provide and have provided for many years. Although a minister may qualify for an IRA or other retirement options, a qualified retirement plan through the denomination can provide tax benefits that are unmatched anywhere. For this reason, we designed and implemented a comprehensive plan that because of its association with the denomination is able to provide benefits that far exceed those of any other plan. We also guarantee to our ministers that select a retirement income that they will never outlive that income. Your gifts enable us to keep that promise to them so that they are able to depend on their income monthly.

Hardship Grants are another avenue of service to the minister. This program came about when the Board identified the primary areas of service to your minister. These are, the retired minister, disabled minister, needy minister and of course the active minister. To help those who fall into the first three categories, we instituted the Hardship Grant which is payable to any minister of the denomination who exhibits extreme hardship and who also applies for the grant. We want to be able to offer to all ministers through our limited resources some avenue of relief and this grant has been a way to accomplish this. The grant is funded entirely from funds given by churches to the general fund of the Minister's Program.

A post-graduate loan program is available to ministers through the program. This is a low cost plan that assists the minister as he pursues advanced educational studies in a effort to better serve his church. It has been erroneously reported by some that this program takes from the ministers who are preparing for retirement and gives to those who are continuing their education. Nothing could be further from the truth. The retirement funds are required by law to be accounted for separately and using them for this purpose would be to violate the trust and confidence that ministers have placed in the program. In reality, the loan plan is funded through gifts to the general fund and reserve monies on deposit.

Each year we hold at least one seminar and sometimes more for ministers on subjects of interest to them. This year we are going to step further and we are holding supper meetings to meet with ministers and church leaders. These meetings are first to thank the leaders for their support through the years and to provide them with current information about the Minister's Program. When this seminar comes to your area, make plans to be there.

The next chapter of this story belongs to you, the churches of our denomination. The future is in your hands and we are limited only by the support we receive. We currently have under study expansion of our benefit plans and we hope to have further information on this in 1989.

Observe *Minister's Program Month* in your church. Pray for the work and remember this work in your giving.

For further information contact:

The Minister's Program
Donald E. Fader, Director
Box 39
Ayden, NC 28513-0039

# IS THE MINISTER'S PROGRAM DYING?

*by Donald Fader*

Not by a long shot! During this past session of the State Convention, a minister made remarks to the effect that the Minister's Program was dying. Now if that diagnosis were made in a person, an immediate examination would certainly be in order. Among other things the person's vital signs would be checked. Respiration, pulse, body temperature and reflexes would be taken to either confirm or reject the diagnosis.

The Board of Directors of the Minister's Program has the vital signs of the program checked regularly not only to see if it is dying, but to determine if it is even the least bit ill. Naturally, we are not checked by a medical doctor but by an accounting firm. They are not checking for pulse, respiration and blood pressure but rather for things like cash flow, income, expenses, and net worth. It is important that the Board knows the condition of the program so each month the records are reviewed and a report is issued each quarter. For those of you that attended the Convention you received in the report booklet a compilation of these quarterly reviews.

So what is the condition of the Minister's Program? GREAT! We provided a comprehensive report of the Convention that outlined expenses and income in an easy to read form. It is important that churches be informed in a clear concise manner the status of a program that they are called upon to support. As a church member you are a partner in our work and you deserve to know what is going on with your contributions and how your gifts are used.

For example, last year we received from all sources income totaling $79,886.44 and expenses of $76,153.98, after taking into consideration a $13,336.08 decrease in retirement reserve. This left us with net revenues of $3,732.46, which will be used for expanding the program. The total assets of the program are 434,490.60, of which 316,985.88 belongs to ministers who are in the retirement program (which are funds that can not be used for any other purpose). Also, we maintain a sizable reserve to insure that ministers who are currently receiving checks from the program never have to worry about whether that check will be there next month.

Last year, we served over two hundred ministers of this Convention and provided benefits of over $69,328 in the form of earnings on retirement funds, hardship grants, Minister's Widows Fund (which is paid by participating ministers), seminars and insurance premiums.

The Board recognizes that we are stewards of God's Kingdom and we operate the program as frugally as possible. This tight-fisted approach towards administrative costs enabled us to return over 86% of all income directly back to the minister. Overhead is a major concern for any operation and we constantly strive to keep yours at a minimum so we can provide more benefits for the minister.

The ministry will provide the leadership that we will need to face the challenges of the 21st century. A program that has their interest at heart is vital to the denomination and our growth as we look toward the future.

If there is an illness it is because we as churches do not support our ministers adequately and we are unwilling to help them prepare for their future, which is really our future. You see the Minister's Program is not only a ministry of this denomination, it is also an attitude of how our churches feel toward those that God has called to serve. For too long our churches have looked at our denomination as a *one calling institution.* Many feel that God has called the minister and he must answer that call and that is that. But we are a *two calling institution;* God has called the minister to preach but He has also called His church to support them adequately. *If we let the idea of providing for our ministers now and in the future die then it will be the denomination that we bury!*

**Free Will Baptist Children's Home**

Meeting The . . .
Challenge



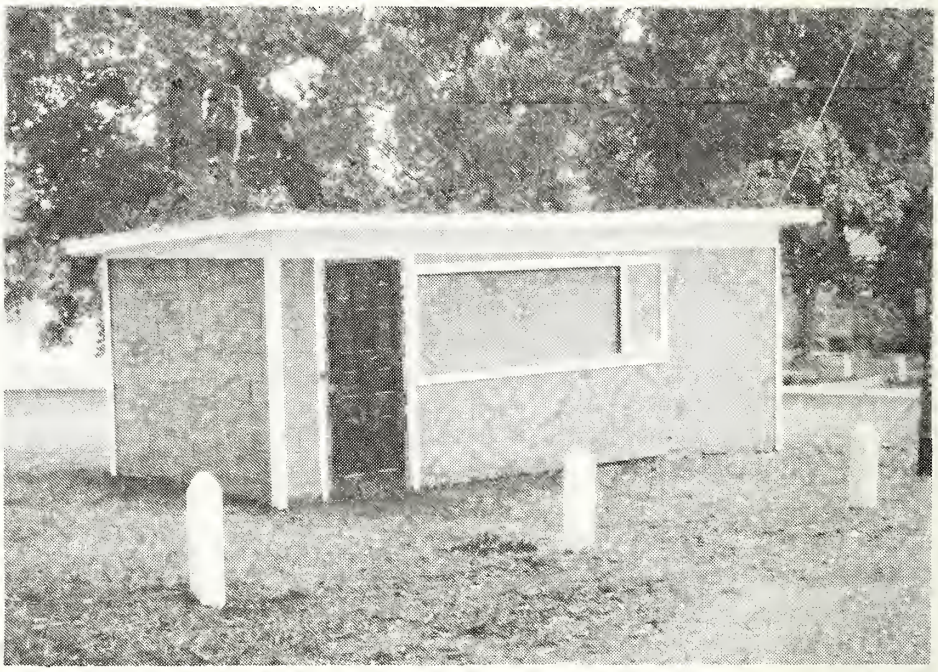

Whitley Center
—
physical education building

The Board of Directors of the
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME
cordially invites you to the
Dedication of WHITLEY CENTER
beginning with lunch
Saturday, November 12, 1988
Twelve o'clock

**RSVP by November 1, 1988**

## SUMMER JOB SKILLS PROJECT





Tommy, Kenneth and Steven, three young men from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, participated in the Summer Job Skills Project.

The project for 1988 was to repair and remodel the campus concession stand. This program was designed to develop the skills necessary to hold a job in the future in the fields of carpentry and construction.



The goals of the project were:

1. Learn to use and care for simple tools
2. Learn to work with supervision
3. Learn to work with co-workers
4. Learn good work habits
5. Learn to work with deadlines and time management.

The project began on July 1, 1988, by developing a plan of how the concession stand would look when completed. After the plans



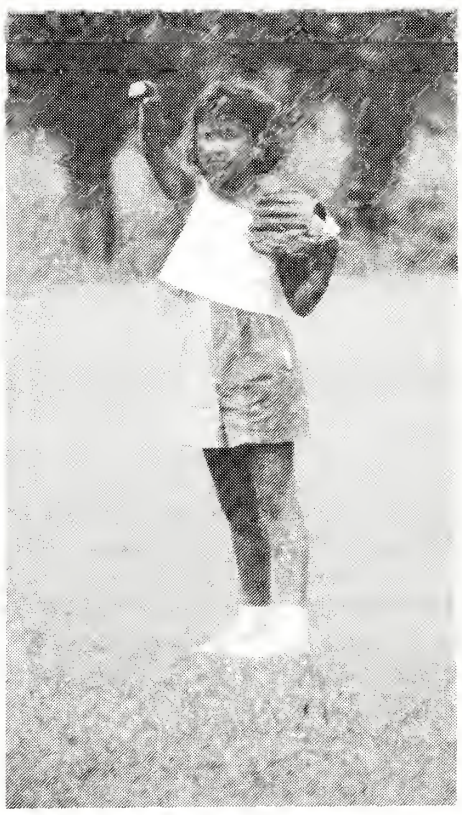
were completed, a list of materials needed was made and the materials purchased.

The three men made the necessary repairs and painted the concessions stand, both inside and out. The project was completed on August 9, 1988, and all of the goals had been accomplished.

## CAPE FEAR YOUTH FIELD DAY







The youth of the Cape Fear Conference held their annual Field Day on the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, on Saturday, August 6, 1988.

Free Will Baptists began arriving on campus around 9:15 and enjoyed the fellowship until 10. At that time, tours of the campus were enjoyed. Points of interest were Whitley Center, Heritage Hall and the cottages.

Everyone met in Memorial Chapel at 11 for devotions and roll call, which showed more than 200 people present.

(Turn the Page)

## PEACE CHURCH VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME



Thirty-one members of Peace Church, Pinetops, visited their child care ministry on Sunday, August 14, 1988. Having arrived around 2:30 p.m., they walked around campus and experienced the environment in which our children live.

They brought with them refreshments and gifts for the children which everyone enjoyed in Heritage Hall. Our children say, "Thank you for sharing your Sunday afternoon with us."



Lunch followed with a cookout of hotdogs, potato chips and cookies. And then the field day began. Softball, sack races, horseshoes, volleyball, egg races, and tug-of-war were enjoyed by those who participated and watched alike.

The one in charge of passing out the drinks worked the hardest that day since the temperature was in the high 90s. "It's over 100 on the softball field," someone was overheard saying.

The fun and excitement were enjoyed by everyone. The exercise seemed a little strange to some. I wonder if those preachers were able to get out of bed and preach on Sunday morning; they were moving mighty slowly when they left the Children's Home around 3.

## NASIDOC D.V.B.S. GRADUATION





*by the Rev. Dario Basingil*

The Nasidoc Free Will Baptist Outreach, located in Barangay Manalo, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, conducted a two-week long Daily Vacation Bible School May 16-28, 1988. The theme was "Train up a child in the way he should go," taken from Proverbs 22:6, The children were divided into three groups; preschool, primary, and junior.

At the end of the two weeks, we had our first commencement exercises. We invited Pastor Joel dela Rosa, to be our guest speaker. The Missions Director, the Rev. Pio dela Rosa, gave an inspirational talk, challenging the parents concerning the Word of God. Our beloved missionary, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, and his family attended our commencement. We



had 37 children to graduate and we thank the Lord for His guidance of and provisions to everyone.

We greatly appreciate the concern shown by the parents, missionaries, and Mission Director by their attendance of the program.



## NASIDOC BAPTISMAL SERVICE



*by the Rev. Dario Basingil*

The Nasidoc Free Will Baptist Outreach, located in Barangay Manalo, had a baptismal service on May 15, 1988. The service was conducted on Sunday morning following our Morning Worship Service. All the congregation (young people, adults, and children) went and supported the service.

We had eight people, who, upon the confession of their faith and in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, were baptized by immersion. The eight people were Mrs. Felisaman Perez, Mr. Roberto Perez, Miss Fercy Perez, Mr. Pepito Ferrer, Miss Marilyn Bonbon, Mrs. Edna Bonbon, Mr. Loreto Cardejon, and Mrs. Fedelita Solis. The officiating minister was the Rev. Dario Basingil, with Brothers Edilberto Villarez and Fem Sarsadiaz as witnesses.

I thank the Lord for His wonderful plan and for His good work. I also thank Him for His guidance and preparation of a place for us to have the service. I personally believe God will bless these eight people in becoming mature Christians and that He will use them in His ministry because of their commitment.

Thank you for your continued *prayers* and *support.*

## FALL ENROLLMENT REACHES ONE THOUSAND

For the first time in the 37-year history of Mount Olive College, combined enrollment for August has reached the 1000 mark. There are 565 students on campus and 453 students in the College's extension program at Seymour Johnston Air Force Base in Goldsboro. Mount Olive College was the only four-year college on the Base with an increase in enrollment.

During the last seven years, the total number of students in Mount Olive College's extension program at Seymour Johnson AFB has increased from 186 to 453. Approximately twenty-nine percent of the students enrolled this fall are civilians. The percentage of military persons is seventy-one.

To obtain information about the SJAFB extension, contact Don Leacott, director of Special Programs for Mount Olive, Seymour

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Johnson AFB 27531 (telephone 919/734-8585).

For more information about the on-campus program contact Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (telephone 919/658-2502).

### 1988 CHURCH DINNERS

Fall brings not only cooler weather and changing leaves to eastern North Carolina but also 17 annual gift support dinners for Mount Olive College. The dinners, which began in 1963, have helped Mount Olive College construct academic buildings, dormitories and college apartments, expand academic programs and provide scholarships to students.

For more information on your local county dinner, contact the chairman. The schedule for the October and November dinners is listed below:

#### 1988 SCHEDULE FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

*Edgecombe-Halifax Counties,* Monday, October 3, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Tarboro, Ray Williamson, Chairman. Goal: $6,600.

*Beaufort County,* Saturday, October 8, 7 p.m., Beaufort County Community College (Learning Resource Center), Washington, Billy Gurkin, Chairman. Goal: $8,750.

*Greene County,* Monday, October 10, 7 p.m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, Randy Beaman and Lena Walston, Co-Chairmen. Goal: $18,850.

*Nash County,* Tuesday, October 11, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Middlesex, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal: $5,200.

*Pamlico County,* Saturday, October 15, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere. Reginald Caroon, Chairman. Goal: $7,250.

*Onslow, New Hanover and Brunswick Counties,* Monday, October 17, 7 p.m., Dixon High School, Dixon, Ronnie Parker, Chairman. Goal: $3,600.

*Duplin County,* Saturday, October 22, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School, William D. Thigpen, Chairman. Goal: $10,900.

*Wayne County,* Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College (College Hall), Mount Olive College, Tempie Jones, Chairman. Goal: $30,900.

*Craven County,* Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern, Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: $15,150.

*Johnston-Wake Counties,* Monday, November 7, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel FWB Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hinnant, Co-Chairmen. Goal: $36,035.

*Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, and Pasquotank Counties,* Thursday, November 10, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: $7,050.

*Carteret County,* Saturday, November 12, 6 p.m., West Carteret School, Morehead. Nathan Garner and Reginald Styron, Co-Chairmen. Goal: $11,100.

*Wilson County,* Monday, November 14, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School, near Wilson, James B. Hunt, Chairman. Goal: $25,750.

*Pitt County,* Tuesday, November 15, 7 p.m., D. H. Conley High School, near Winterville, Tim Tyndall, Chairman. Goal: $25,650.

*Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties,* Thursday, November 17, 7 p.m., Clinton-Sampson Agri-Civic Center, Clinton, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: $12,750.

### BOARD OF ADVISORS HOLD FIRST MEETING

The Board of Advisors, appointed to assist the newly established "Education for Christian Ministries" program at Mount Olive College, held its first meeting in early August. During the meeting, the Board approved its Bylaws and elected officers for the coming year. The Board will serve in an advisory role to the College and as a support group to Rev. K. David Hines, director of Education for Christian Ministries.

"I am very excited about working with the Board of Advisors," said Hines, "The Board knows the needs of the Free Will Baptist people and their assistance with the program of ministerial education will help MOC move further down the 'Road to Excellence.' "

The Board is comprised of representatives of the Conference Boards of Ordination, the Free Will Baptist denominational ministries, and members-at-large appointed by the College.



**Trustee's Son Attends MOC**—Dean Jones, with friend Ashby Atkins, attends the picnic for incoming freshmen with his parents Lloyd and Mary Jones. Dean, the fourth child to attend Mount Olive College from the Jones family, is a new member of the MOC Singers. Lloyd Jones is currently serving on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. The Jones family attends Mount Zion Church in Roper, North Carolina (photo by Sandra K. Phelps).

Those attending the first meeting of the Board included: the Rev. K. David Hines, director of Education for Christian Ministries; Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, Mount Olive College; De W. Eakes, Western Conference; Charles Crisp, Piedmont Conference; N. D. Beaman, Central Conference; Bill Futch, Eastern Conference; David C. Hansley, Home Missions; Harold Jones, Foreign Missions; Frank Harrison, College Chaplain; Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman, Department of Religion at Mount Olive College; Douglas Skinner, Member-at-Large; Bobby Taylor, Children's Home; Adrian Grubbs, Free Will Baptist Press; Ray Wells, North Carolina Ministerial Association; Marvin Waters, Member-at-Large.

Officers elected at the meeting are: Chairman, J. B. Narron, pastor of Ayden Church; Vice Chairman, Calvin Heath, pastor of Robert's Grove Church; and Secretary, C. Ray Taylor, pastor of Casey's Chapel Church.

**INVITATION TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

The Admissions Staff at Mount Olive College invites all high school Juniors and Seniors to visit the College when they have teacher work-days in their counties. Visits to the College would give students an opportunity to tour the campus and meet students and faculty.

Interested students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (919/658-2502) to set up an appointment. The Admissions Staff welcomes visitors at anytime.

**MOC TRUSTEES HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Mount Olive College Board of Trustees held its quarterly meeting Wednesday, September 7, in College Hall. Chairman, James B. Hunt, presided over the meeting in which Board members viewed the forthcoming year at Mount Olive College.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, outlined the progress of the College since it located in Mount Olive in 1953. He stressed the importance of building a firm academic foundation as a base for advancing other areas of the College. "Mount Olive College has an indispensable mission to provide excellence in Christian higher education," Dr. Raper stated. "Our theme 'Road to Excellence' will set the tone for our future direction for years to come."

The "Road to Excellence" course was further explained to the Board by representatives of the various areas of the College. Dorothy Whitley, assistant dean, informed the Trustees of revisions in the College's Honors Program. The program is divided into two areas, scholars and leaders. The program for scholars consists of seminars and research projects that will enhance the student's learning experiences. The program for leaders allows selected students to develop leadership skills by serving the College as student hosts, tutors, game directors, lab instructors, photographers and proof readers.

Dr. Barbara Sessoms, vice president for Planning and Support Services, defined "the Freshman Experience," as "a program designed to successfully guide students through their

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**SEBESTA MEMORIAL FUND ESTABLISHED AT MOC**



The family of the late Charles J. Sebesta Sr., of Snook, Texas, has established a scholarship endowment in his memory at Mount Olive College. Income from the fund will be used to provide annual scholarships for worthy and qualified students beginning with the 1988-89 academic year.

Shown on a recent visit to the College are (seated left to right) Mrs. Sebesta and her daughter, Marilyn Sebesta, a home extension agent in Wharton, Texas. Standing (left to right) are College President W. Burkette Raper and the Rev. N. B. Barrow of Snow Hill, North Carolina. Mr. Barrow is a former pastor of the Sebesta family at Bryan Church, Texas.

college careers." It involves revised admissions criteria, a one-day summer orientation program and a three-day fall orientation program. Parents are an important component of this new program.

Athletics, stressed to the Board of Trustees the College's commitment to build a quality athletic program by using only quality athletes. He also noted the College's recent membership in the Carolina's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Jean F. Ackiss, director of Church Support, reported on the Bridge Builders gift support program. At the conclusion of the 1987-88 year, there were 813 participants in the program. Eighteen of these pledged $1,000 or more to the College.

The Mount Olive College Board of Trustees is comprised of 30 members elected by the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

**COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Saturday, October 8**<br>9 A.M. College Hall | Parent's Day |
| **Sunday, October 30**<br>7:30 P.M. College Hall | TRUHEART in Concert<br>(Contemporary Christian Trio) |
| **Saturday, November 12**<br>9:45 A.M. Registration<br>College Hall | High School Visitation Day |
| **Thursday, November 17**<br>8 P.M. College Hall | Charles Kuralt and Company<br>(Admission: $10) |
| **Tuesday, November 22**<br>11 A.M. College Hall | Founder's Day |



**TRUHEART TO PERFORM AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE**

TruHeart, a contemporary Christian trio out of Atlanta, will be in concert Sunday, October 30, at Mount Olive College. The concert, which will be held in College Hall, will begin at 7:30 p.m.

TruHeart, formed in February of this year, has been seen on various television stations in the Atlanta area. The group members were guest performers at the 1988 Atlanta Kingfest, and continue to minister at revivals, benefits and other church functions in Georgia and North Carolina.

The members of TruHeart include Sherry Scott, a 1984 graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City and a soloist at Mt. Paran Church of God in Atlanta; Randy Anglin, minister of Music at Monfort Road Baptist Church in Lawrenceville, Georgia, and a 1986 graduate of the University of Georgia with a Master's in Vocal Performance; and Cynthia Gentry, originally from Stedman, North Carolina, a published writer/composer and pianist at Southside Baptist Church in Lilburn, Georgia.

All churches are invited to *load your buses and vans* for an evening of inspirational singing. There is no admission charge, but an offering will be received. The concert is sponsored by Mount Olive College and the Mount Olive Ministerial Association.




# ATTENTION, ALL TREASURERS, FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, MINISTERS AND DEACONS

The Minister's Program would like to say **thank you** for the work and leadership that you provide in the local church. To do this we are hosting a supper in your honor. This will take place in a town near you, so it will be more convenient for each church. At this meeting we will share ideas that you can carry back to your church and we will provide you with in-depth information about the Ministers' Program. We look forward to seeing you there!

Below we have listed a tentative schedule for these suppers:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| October 18 | Plymouth | November 10 | Wilson |
| October 27 | Whiteville | November 15 | Smithfield |
| November 1 | Goldsboro | November 17 | Morehead City |
| November 3 | Beulaville | November 29 | Greenville |
| November 8 | New Bern | December 1 | Kinston |

Each meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m., with supper at 7 p.m. There will be no charge and we hope that you will make plans to attend. We will be sending out letters to each church with the definite times and places along with the registration form. If there is not enough response in a particular area that meeting may be shifted to the next closest location.

SEE YOU THERE!

# CORNERSTONE

## A NEW women's weekend retreat for the fall



Cornerstone, Cragmont's newest retreat weekend, will set sail on its maiden voyage, November 25-27, 1988. It is patterned after Morning Star, the Spring Women's Retreat held the weekend following Easter. Cornerstone is planned as a time women can leave the responsibilities of home and job for a short period and spend some time in communion with the Creator in the splendor of His mountain creations.

We think we have picked the ideal weekend—Thanksgiving. Get the family all filled and satisfied on a turkey dinner on Thursday. They can live off the leftovers all weekend while you join us to receive some nourishment of another type.

This can be a weekend of growth and revitalization for the spiritual side of your life. Our weekend will begin with a service Friday night and end following the worship service Sunday morning. Saturday morning will be devoted to Bible study, with Saturday afternoon free for your own adventures.

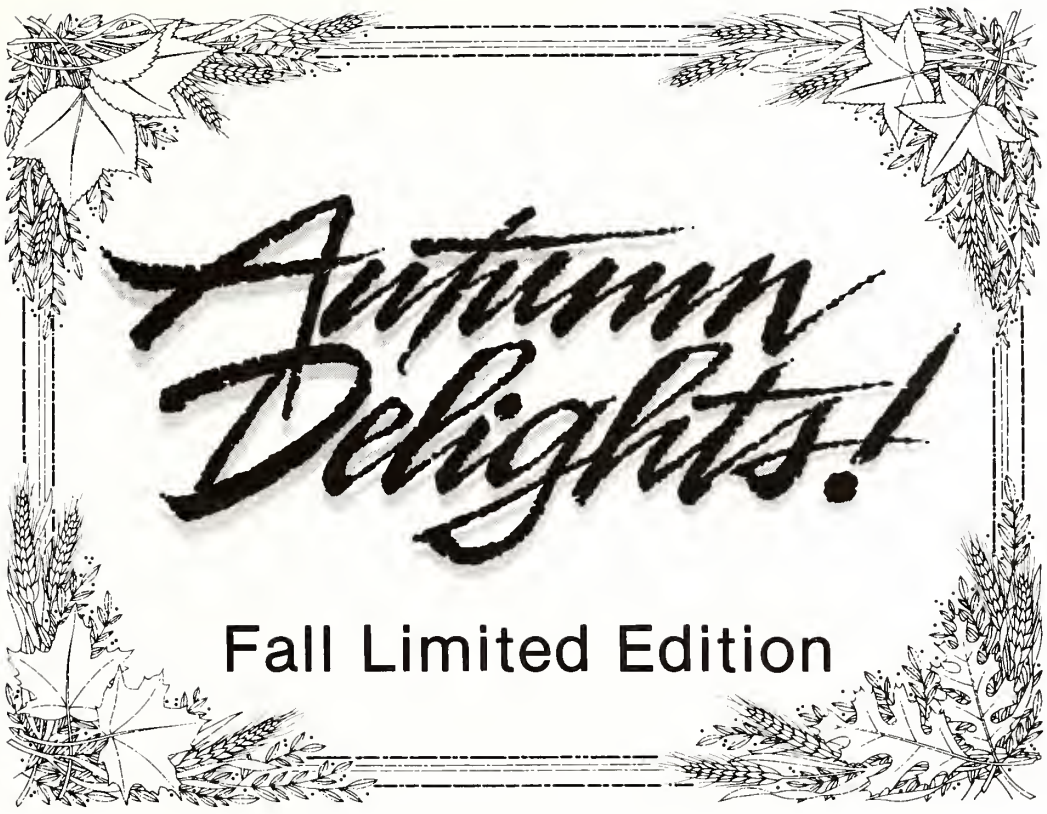
If you have enjoyed Morning Star in the spring, please consider joining us for Cornerstone in the fall. If the time of Morning Star has not been convenient for you to attend, here's another time for you to try. This doesn't replace Morning Star but provides a second opportunity each year to come away from life's rush to be still and feel the touch of God.

CORNERSTONE
**Dates:** November 25-27, 1988
**Includes:** Friday and Saturday Lodging
3 Meals Saturday
Breakfast Sunday
**Cost:** $40 per person

**Registrar:**
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

**Co-Directors:**
Dola Dudley
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810




We are once again offering our FALL LIMITED EDITION, which includes three nights at Cragmont, two days traveling to and from Cragmont, and two days touring the mountains. This is offered by Cragmont for a package price of $125 per person. This price includes travel cost, lodging, Monday night supper, and breakfast each morning. This price **excludes** personal spending money and the cost of meals while away from Cragmont.

Limited Edition begins Monday, October 17, 1988. Transportation is provided by motor coach with stops in several eastern North Carolina towns.

Tuesday will be an all-day excursion on passenger vans, allowing for travel not ordinarily seen by tourists. On Wednesday following breakfast, we will travel to the Gatlinburg-Pigeon Forge area, offering several possible attractions, such as Christus Gardens and Dollywood.

Limited Edition comes to an end on Thursday, October 20. You will leave after breakfast to return to eastern North Carolina.

Because of limited space, reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. To be assured of a place, please return your completed reservation form along with $25 non-refundable deposit.

Come join us for this special fall retreat. All arrangements are made by Cragmont, freeing you from the hassle of planning, searching for scenery and driving.

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**LIMITED EDITION, Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711**

Name _____ Sex _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Church _____



DILDA'S GROVE CHURCH, located near Fountain, honored Mr. Jonas Larry Letchworth Sr. by presenting him with a license to preach the gospel on July 24, 1988.

Larry has been an active member and lay speaker at Dilda's Grove since June, 1969, serving in the following capacities: Deacon, September, 1973, to the present; Sunday School Teacher, 1973 to present; Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, 1973 to present.

Larry resides with his wife, the former Margaret McKeel of Walstonburg, and their family in Crisp. They have three daughters and one son.

Larry is available to preach where called and can be contacted by telephone at (919) 827-5813.

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THE CAPE FEAR UNION MEETING will convene with Hopewell Church on Saturday, October 29, 1988. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
- —Devotions, the Rev. Roger Heath
- —Welcome, Host Church
- —Response, Haymount Church

10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
- —Recognition of Visitors
- —Reading of the Minutes of the Last Union Meeting
- —Appointment of Committees
- —Roll Call of Churches
- —Report of Denominational Enterprises
- —Miscellaneous Business, Congregation

11:15—Hymn, Congregation
- —Offering and Offertory Prayer
- —Special Music, Host Church
- —Message, the Rev. Sexton Vann; Alternate, the Rev. Allen Lamm

12:00—Report of Treasurer
- —Report of Committees
- —Unfinished Business
- —Benediction and Adjournment
- —Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Ken Hardison
Secretary, Martha Parsons

THE WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will convene on Wednesday, October 5, 1988, at Little Rock Church, Lucama, North Carolina (Wilson County). The Convention will be featuring Home Missions, with its theme "Come, That My House May Be Filled," with Scripture taken from Luke 14:23. The program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:15—Registration

9:45—Hymn, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus"
- —Devotion (Isaiah 6:8), Jean F. Ackiss
- —Welcome, Peggy Lamm
- —President's Remarks, Donna M. Holland

10:15—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story"
- —Fill His House Through Benevolence, Esther Barnes
- —Fill His House With Our Youth, Nancy Boykin
- —Special Offering for Home Missions
- —Fill His House Through Missions
- —Home
- —Foreign

11:00—Hymn, "I Am Resolved"
- —Convention Offering
- —Special Music, Yvonne Horton
- —Message, David C. Hansley

12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Hymn, "Ready"
- —Devotion (1 Peter 3:15; Acts 1:8), Frances Holland
- —Cragmont Time, Song and Testimony
- —Business Session
- —Closing Hymn

THE CAPE FEAR WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will meet on October 12 with Saint Mary's Grove Church. "Prepare for God's Service" is the Convention theme, with Ephesians 6:11 serving as the day's theme Scripture.

The scheduled program is as

follows:

9:30 A.M.—Registration
10:00 A.M.—Hymn 27, "Onward, Christian Soldiers"
—Devotions, Lizzie Dawson, Shady Grove Church
—Welcome, Grace Jones, Host Church
—Response, Brenda Johnson, West Clinton Church
—Greetings, Linda Jackson, President
—Missions
—Children's Home
—Retirement Homes
—Mount Olive College
—Free Will Baptist Press
—Cragmont
11:15 A.M.—Hymn 43, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"
—Offering
—Special Music, Host Church
—Convention Message, Linda Baker, missionary to the Philippines
12:00 Noon—Lunch
1:00 P.M.—Hymn 188, "Faith Is the Victory"
—Life Membership Award
1:20 P.M.—Miscellaneous Business
—Hymn 344, "The Banner of the Cross"
2:00 P.M.—Adjournment

THE SECOND UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION of the Central Conference will meet on Sunday, October 31, at 3 p.m. at Community Church in Weldon. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood will teach a short workshop on Sunday School growth. All Sunday School workers and pastors are urged to attend.

MARLBORO CHURCH, Route 1, Farmville, has scheduled a series of revival services for October 16-19. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 and feature the Rev. James B. Hardee, of Elizabethtown, as guest evangelist.

The church will celebrate its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 23. The day's activities will begin with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. The morning worship service will follow at 11. The Rev. W. Scott Sowers, pastor, will bring the morning message. Lunch will follow. The day's activities will conclude with a singspiration and memorial service.

Everyone is cordially invited to come and experience the day and its blessings.

THE ALBEMARLE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION will meet with Mt. Tabor Church, Creswell, on Thursday, October 13. The theme for the Convention will be "Heavenly Investments," with Matthew 6:21 serving as the theme Scripture.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
—Devotions, Mrs. Doris Radwick
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Doris Simmons
—Response, Mrs. Faye Davis
—President's Greetings, Mrs. Eunice Sexton
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Missions News, Home and Foreign
—Offering for Missions
—Retirement Homes Report
—Children's Home Report
—Offering for Children's Home
—Hymn, "Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
11:25—Special Music, Host Church
11:30—Message, Mrs. Jean Crispin
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "I Surrender All"
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Robanna Fowler
1:15—Mount Olive College News
—Cragmont News
1:30—Free Will Baptist Press News
—News from the Ministers' Program
1:50—Youth Report
—Committee Reports
—Announcements of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Installation of Officers
—Benediction and Adjournment

THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND THE NATIONAL PRESS FOUNDATION invite entries for the second annual Benjamin Franklin Awards for excellence in writing during 1988 on the Constitution's import and impact on the nation and its people.

Two first-place Benjamin Franklin Awards will be presented to the authors of the best writing during calendar 1988: In a United States publication of *general* circumlation, including, but not limited to newspapers, magazines and newsletters. Books are excluded. And, two first-place Benjamin Franklin Awards will be presented to the authors of the best writing: In a

(Turn the Page)

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United States publication of *limited* circulation, including, but not limited to newspapers, magazines and newsletters targeted to the professions, religious groups, special interests, unions, business/corporations, service, veterans, education, and government organizations. Books are excluded.

Materials written in another language must be accompanied by an English translation.

Submit five (5) photo copies. Submission by either author or publication. Enclose name, address, and phone number of author, who must agree to receive the award in person at a Benjamin Franklin Awards ceremony hosted by the sponsors in the Spring of 1989 in Washington, DC. Travel expenses paid. No submission returned.

Send submissions to: Bicentennial Awards, The National Press Foundation, 1282 National Press Building, Washington, DC 20045. Submissions must be postmarked no later than Friday, February 3, 1989.

THE THIRD UNION OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE will meet with Rooty Branch Church, Mount Olive, NC, on October 29, at 10 a.m. All laymen and pastors are encouraged to attend.

### ADDRESS CHANGE

The Rev. Bobby Brown recently accepted the pastorate of Arapahoe Church. Following are his new address and phone number: Box 117, Arapahoe, NC 28510; phone, 249-1484.

### SEEKING A PEN PAL

Ms. Pearl Jones, 41, of Farmville, enjoys writing and is looking for a pen pal. Her birthday is August 3, and she likes fishing, horseback riding, hiking, reading, animals—and particularly writing. Miss Jones is a Christian and can be contacted by writing to her at Box 314, Farmville, NC 27828-0314.

### MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. M. E. Cox announces that he is available for full-time or interim pastoral responsibilities. He can be reached by writing to him at 5 Dudley Circle, Durham, NC 27703; or by phoning (919) 596-1501.

The Rev. Robert Langley is available for supply work. He can be contacted at Route 1, Box 250-A, Middlesex, NC 27557; or by phoning 284-4178 (home) or 541-3999 (office).

The Rev. Raymond Lagcher wishes to announce that he is available for supply work. Churches interested in his services can contact him by writing to him at Box 146, Pinetown, NC 27865; or by phoning 927-4439.

### ANSWERS TO CHILDREN'S CORNER

Antioch
Peter
Timothy
Stephen
Dorcas
Foes
Boldly
The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost.




Announcing the Annual
Albemarle Conference
Sunday School Convention
Banquet

Friday, October 21
7 p.m.
Barrett's Family Restaurant
Highway 64
Plymouth, NC
Banquet Speaker:
The Rev. Franklin Baggett, Pastor
Sidney Church

Buffet meal will cost $6.50 per person and will include dessert, beverage, tax, and tip.

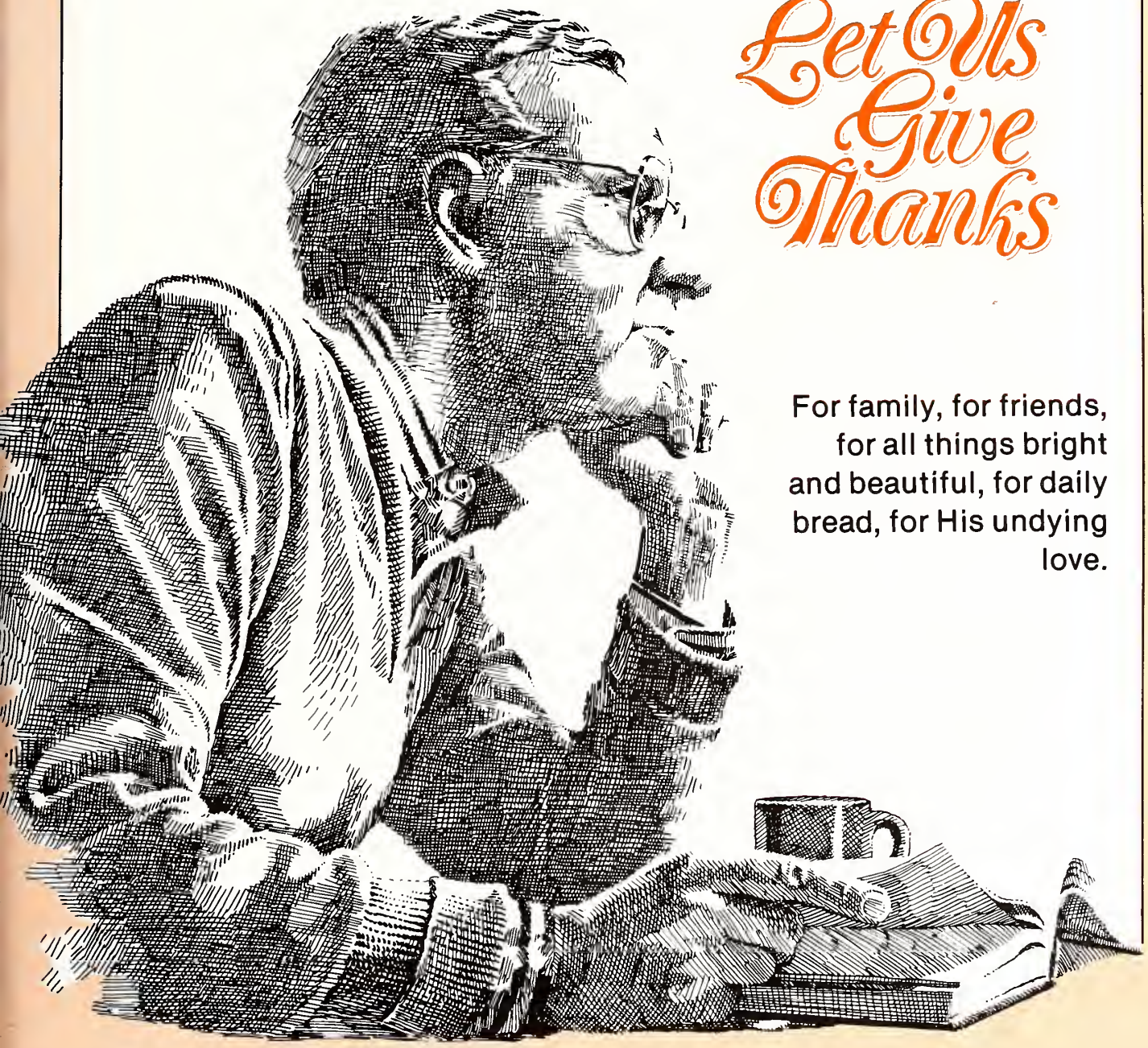
Contact Gary Burbage at 964-4429 for more information.

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# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

November, 1988



## Let Us Give Thanks

For family, for friends, for all things bright and beautiful, for daily bread, for His undying love.

NOVEMBER

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST 88




**Editorial Comment**
3

**One Last Look**
5

**Learning Servanthood**
8

**For Parents and Other Human Beings**
11

**Youth Focus**
14

**Children's Corner**
16

**Ministries Update**
17

**News Briefs**
31



November, 1988
Vol. 103 No. 11

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

**Board of Directors:** Adrian Grubbs, President; Darrell Horne, Vice President; Joe Griffith, Secretary; Ruth Taylor, Assistant Secretary; Lynette Sumerlin, Carlee Stallard, Carroll Hawkins, Jack Thompson, Gaye Renfrow; Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

**EDITORIAL COMMENT**

# THAT TIME OF THE YEAR . . .

I am not one of those individuals who anxiously awaits the mailman's daily visit. Being reminded of my financial obligations does not evoke joyful emotions and sales papers only serve to clutter the house. Sometimes, however, I retrieve the day's mail and find a card or letter that brightens my day. Sometimes someone takes the time to sit down and thank me for some small deed I might have done. After reading the letter or note I feel special. Someone noticed that I care and they appreciate me. At that minute, I feel important; I am loved.

Then I think of all the folks I have not said thanks to lately.

I think about my church family. In doing so, I have to think of my pastor. The relationship we share helps me know better than anyone else what his life is like. There are people to visit—the sick, the shut-in, the troubled, the bereaved, the hurting, those who are happy, those who are indifferent, those who understand and those who do not; and then there are the new folks in the community, those who have visited our church, and those without a church home . . . .

Much of my pastor's time is spent in prayer and study. Stacks of books often "decorate" his home; and notepads and file folders hold ideas, concepts, and dreams that motivate (and almost drive) him on.

There are also many administrative responsibilities that come as a part of his job. More study and planning are called for.

His oratory skills are among the best, and I rarely tell him so. In fact, I need to tell my pastor, "Thank you. Thank you for all you do for me and all the members of Marlboro Church."

Then I think of all the other members of the church: the children, youth, young adults, middle-aged adults and senior citizens who *are* Marlboro church. I think of my Christian friends, my brothers and sisters: those who greet me every Sunday and give me a bulletin, those who smile as I rush by them on my way to the organ, those who discuss all kinds of topics with me in Sunday School, those who ask me to pray for them and those who pray for me. I think of all the folks who sit in the same place Sunday after Sunday, those who fill the choir loft, those who provide special music, all those who are a phone call away—always ready to help out. I think of all those who serve on the boards and committees of the church and the church officers. "Thank you for making my life a good one."

(Turn the Page)

I think of my family . . . and words fail me. "Thank you for helping to make me what I am and for loving me in spite of myself."

Then I must thank my work associates. Mondays have a tendency of being bad days for us all—but we survive. We don't always agree, but we have agreed to disagree and still be friends. "Thank you all for everything, especially for reading my mind and putting up with me on Mondays."

And then there are the countless others—my friends—who share time with me over a cup of coffee, or at a Convention, meeting, or retreat. "Thank you for sharing yourself."

Thank you for bearing with me while I took time out to do something I have been needing to do. It is really a shame that we often remove being thankful from our minds until we see harvest motifs in the marketplace.

Thanksgiving "seems to blend together all we Americans hold precious and dear—without the sham and plastic mask of commercialism" (Charles Swindoll). It provides a time for quiet reflection upon the past and an annual reminder that God has, once again, been so very faithful. The mere mention of the word "Thanksgiving" causes us to be humble. We genuinely feel grateful to God for His mercy, His abundance, His protection, His smile of favor. We start counting all our many blessings—all those things we usually take for granted the rest of the year.

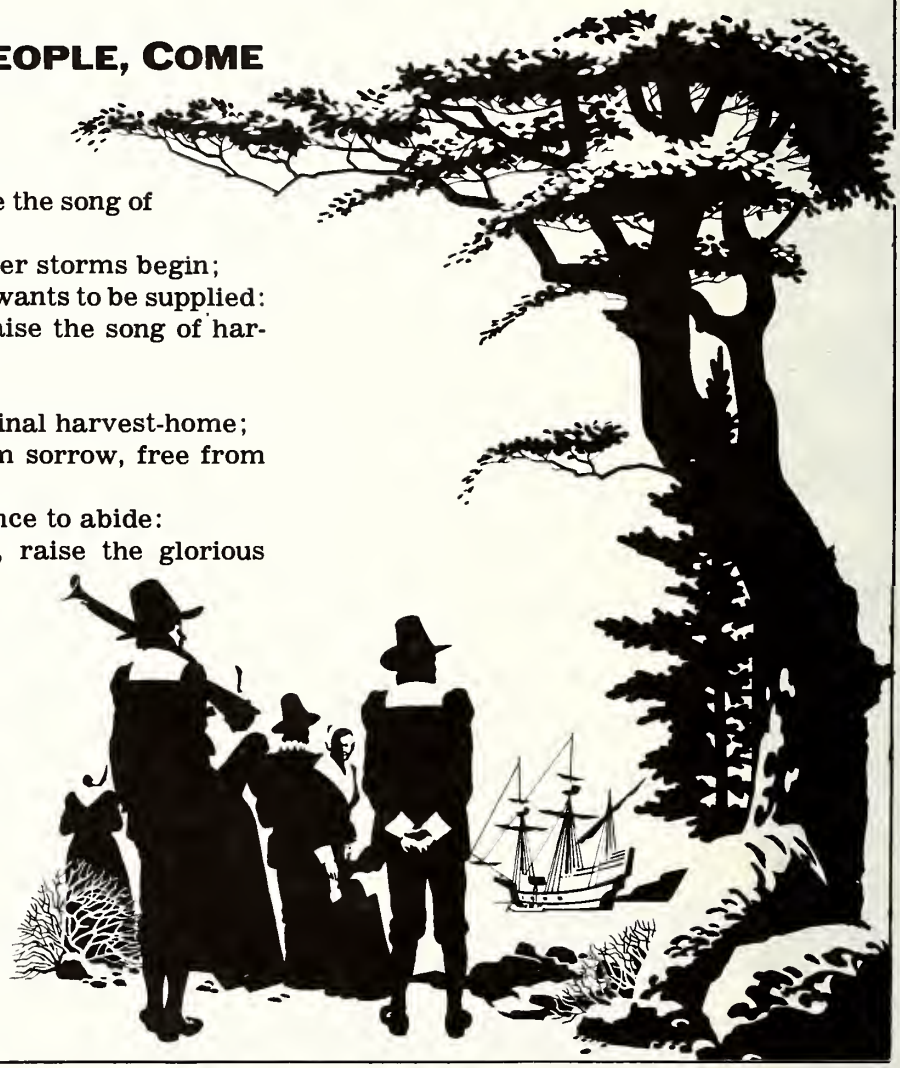
As you celebrate Thanksgiving this year, I encourage you to slow down. Make "thanks giving" a part of your daily life.

## COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

*by Henry Alford*

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home:
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest-home.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest-home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
There, forever purified, in Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest-home.



# ONE LAST LOOK . . .

The dust has settled and some of us have forgotten many of the events related to the 1988 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Before dismissing all thoughts of the Convention, I feel we need to consider several items.

One of these deals with our financial giving. During the session, the denominational ministries presented their reports and sought approval of their 1988-89 budgets. Each report was adopted, with very few questions asked. That all sounds good until you consider the fact that those individuals, adopted budgets in hand, left the Convention not knowing whether or not you and I would in fact help them meet their budgets. You see, when we adopt their reports and budgets, we are thereby saying, "Go ahead and spend the money. We will make sure you can make ends meet." We do not always meet these pledges as the chart on the next page indicates. When we do not give as we say we will, the ministry director is often held accountable, when in fact, you and I are the ones who fell short of measuring up.

(Turn the Page)

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS

| MINISTRY | 1987-88 REQUESTS | 1987-88 CONTRIBUTIONS | 1988-89 REQUESTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| State Convention | $ 17,450.00 | $ 10,967 | $ 18,000 |
| Ministers' Program | 22,000.00 | 21,963 | 23,000 |
| Retirement Homes | 34,404.00 | 29,963 | 35,612 |
| Cragmont | 120,000.00 | 122,603 | 120,000 |
| Home Missions | 166,794.34 | 142,134 | 170,600 |
| Children's Home | 225,000.00 | 220,631 | 225,000 |
| Foreign Missions | 313,892.00 | 314,554 | 331,453 |
| Mount Olive College | 950,000.00 | 487,746 | 940,000 |
| Total | $1,849,540.34 | $1,350,561 | $1,865,665 |

After examining the chart above you may wonder as I do: Are we just not giving? Is too much being asked of us? Are we holding back money because we do not like certain personalities involved? (No matter how you try to justify it, the last doesn't seem too Christian to me.) Or, are there problems with the ministries that need attention?

I found the report of the Ministers' Program to be quite interesting, especially when one considers the future.

> Over the past five years, the Minister's Program has conducted surveys and interviews in the area of compensation and benefits for the clergy. We have compared the average income of our ministers with the average income of ministers in other similar denominations. We have found that the gap between Free Will Baptists and other institutions is widening. Along with this it is worthy to note that the average age of a minister in our denomination today is 50.625 years old, an increase of over four years since 1984. If this rate continues at the same pace we will face the twenty-first century with the average minister over 60 years old. While the experience will be valuable it is essential that we have the energy and enthusiasm of those less than 60.
>
> This increase in age is alarming because it indicates that fewer men are entering the ministry and we need to find out why. As a church we should be aware of the ministers' needs such as adequate salaries, retirement, insurance, housing and expense. We have spent millions on the churches' physical plant but it is now time to invest in the ministry. Buildings are a necessary part of the local church but it is successful programs and leadership that provide growth in today's church (*State Convention Report Booklet*).

With these facts in mind, we must understand that only God can call people into the gospel ministry. We also need to see that unless Free Will Baptists offer adequate compensation, many of our present ministers may be forced to leave our ranks. This is particularly alarming when one realizes the shortage of ministers we have. (There are presently nearly 400 Original Free Will Baptist ministers. Counting all our mission points, we have less than 300 churches, with 20-25 looking a minister at all times. Many who are ordained do not wish to pastor, some hold denominational posts and others are retired.)

The reports of the Nominating and Resolutions Committees are always of particular interest. These follow.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**OFFICERS:**

President .....De Wayne Eakes
Vice President .....Scott Sowers

**CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Cape Fear .....Dola Dudley
Central .....Leon Harris
Eastern .....Justin Kornegay

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

Children's Home: James Cahoon ('92)
Franklin Vester ('92)
Fred Boykin ('92)

Retirement Homes: Lloyd Jones ('93)
Ed Gonzalez ('93)
*James Joyner ('91)
*(To fill unexpired term of J. C. Yates)

Foreign Missions: Henry Armstrong ('93)

Historical Commission: Leah McGlohon ('90)

Home Missions: Ray Wells ('95)

Scouting Commission: David C. Hansley ('91)
Ervin Mizell ('91)

Ministers' Program: Bruce Barrow ('93)

Commission on Free Will Baptist Fellowships: Harold Swinson ('91)

Board of Trustees: A. Graham Lane ('91)
David W. Hansley, Honorary

Mount Olive College: Mrs. N. B. Barrow ('94)
James B. Hunt Sr. ('94)
S. Woodrow McCoy ('94)
William Thigpen ('94)
Dr. Annie Mae Sutton ('94)
*E. J. Pope Jr. ('89)
*(To fill unexpired term of Johnny Hines)

Chaplain's Commission: Adrian Grubbs ('93)
*Dan Rivers ('92)
*(To fill unexpired term of Alan Lamm)

Cragmont Assembly Stock Representative: Donald Coates ('91)

Church Finance Association Representative: Ralph Sumner

Free Will Baptist Press Representative: Ronnie Hobgood

Layman's League Board: J. T. Wilson ('91)
Fred Boykin ('91)
Raymond McLawhorn ('91)
Donald Marlowe ('91)
Chuck Whitford ('89)

Board of Publications: Earl Glenn ('93)

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

1. *WHEREAS,* facts presented in the Ministers' Program report and the Youth Auxiliary Reports concerning the age of our ministers and the lack of support of young people in our churches, as well as the lack of young men answering the call into the ministry are of serious concern,

   *BE IT RESOLVED* that a committee of five ministers under the age of 35 years old be appointed by the Convention to promote the reaching of young people for Christian ministry.

   *BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Committee work at no expense to the Convention with the Committee's work to benefit our local churches in ministry to youth.

(This resolution was referred to the Executive Committee for further study. The Committee's recommendations are to be presented at the 1989 Convention.)

2. *WHEREAS,* the State Layman's League, Woman's Auxiliary, and our local churches have numerous concerns that would be of interest to all our people, and

   *WHEREAS,* our *Free Will Baptist* paper has become a monthly publication, and

   *WHEREAS,* those presenting this resolution to the Resolutions Committee are in sympathy with the Press Board and further understand the financial concerns of the Press in its publication of the paper, yet we desire to see a return to the weekly or a bi-weekly for more news coverage;

   *BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Executive Committee meet with the Press Board in an attempt to work out a solution to having a paper that is available to us on more than a monthly basis.

(At the time of this writing, the Executive Committee has not met, but is scheduled to do so in a few days. We will keep you informed.)

3. *WHEREAS,* there is the possibility of overlapping ministry related to the work of the Minister's Program and the Retirement Homes Program, and

   *WHEREAS,* the administrative costs of two separate programs could possibly be reduced by a co-operative effort,

   *BE IT RESOLVED,* that the Executive Committee of this Convention meet with these two boards to study the feasibility of merging the two programs into one, in an effort to improve both programs.

4. *WHEREAS,* this Convention owes a debt of gratitude to those who lead us,

   *BE IT RESOLVED,* that we give a rising vote of thanks to any outgoing Convention officers and committee or board members.

5. *WHEREAS,* the hosting of this Convention has called for a great deal of planning, effort and sacrifice on the part of the entire Mount Olive College family,

   *BE IT RESOLVED,* that this Convention express its appreciation to the administration, faculty, staff and students for the way they have graciously received us this week, and

   *BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,* that we give to them a rising vote of thanks.



GIFTS FOR SERVICE

1988-1989

# A TRIBUTE TO MARVIN SHEPHERD COWAN

*by Peggy Bailey*

Marvin S. Cowan, born July 23, 1908, died January 29, 1988. Absent from the body . . . present with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8).

The tears fell freely at Rose of Sharon the day he died. The congregation did not weep as those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:14). They grieved because of the emptiness created by the death of Marvin S. Cowan.

Mr. Marvin was a long-time servant to the Free Will Baptist denomination and an integral part of Rose of Sharon Church (located in Bear Grass Township, in Martin County). He was there to cement relationships, enlighten lives, and to symbolically cover and shelter its members.

He was as ordinary as the mortar between the bricks, the simple unadorned windows, and the plain dark shingles that protected the top of the 100-year-old church. And he was just as necessary as all of these.

Marvin S. Cowan thought deeply, talked softly and slowly, moving with care in every area of his life. He loved to refer to himself as being likened to Zacchaeus who was small in stature, often times up a tree and very anxious to see Jesus.



Marvin and Zelma Cowan receiving a plaque and red roses of appreciation in a ceremony at Rose of Sharon Church.

To all who knew him, Mr. Marvin was never small in any way, though he was only about five feet, four inches tall. No man ever carried the banner of Christ so high as he. He proved well that big means more than height, weight, or density. He showed that it is character, integrity, honesty, morality, fidelity, principle, charity, compassion, quality. All of these made big the force that was Marvin S. Cowan for 79 years.

How ironic it seemed, that upon his death those who knew him well learned for the first time that his middle name was Shepherd. How fitting that name, because he was a shepherd to the people who passed through the doors of the small frame church in rural Martin County.

He used the shepherd's instincts to scan the area for those who might be in danger of slipping through the fold. And when he observed that there might be a need, he kindly touched that wayward lamb and gently pointed the way back into the flock.

His heart was burdened for neighbors, relatives, and others who did not know Jesus as their personal Saviour. He prayed for them continuously, refusing to give them up though at times these people seemed to sink deeper and deeper into the world. His pleas at the altar were humble, yet insistent. He believed without a doubt that God could pluck them from the clutches of evil and set them on a new course.

And rightly so. For during his lifetime of service to God, he saw many miracles worked in the lives of whole families, the elderly and boys and girls.

It began in his own family when his father died, and Mr. Marvin was influenced greatly by a godly mother, much as Timothy was in the New Testament story. Mr.

Marvin was only a small boy who worked alongside his mother as she cared for the younger children. He struggled with her as they plowed, planted and hoed in an effort to tend the small farm. He observed her and absorbed her strong faith and deep love for the Scriptures, especially the Old Testament.

As they worked together, she talked of Abraham, Moses, Ruth and Naomi, Samson and Deliah, Samuel and Elijah. "Miss Bessie" would gather her children around her as evening fell and read the ancient stories by the kerosene lamps used to light their home.

Mr. Marvin's heart was fertile ground. The seed sank, took root and grew abundantly. During his early teen years, he became attached to Rose of Sharon, a very young church that struggled to live in hard times.

Funds were meager, but someone was needed to take care of the finances. Mr. Marvin agreed to handle this responsibility. He performed these services for over 53 years. During that time he also served as superintendent of the Sunday School, which he initiated in the mid-thirties. This position was held for 35 consecutive years, along with teaching a regular class each Sunday.

Mr. Marvin was blessed in early manhood with a wife who was as eager as he in serving the Lord and maintaining the little church. They opened their home to unnumbered but well remembered itinerant ministers who traveled first on foot, by horse and buggy, and later in fine cars. These representatives slept in the Cowan home, ate sumptuous meals and shared their happiness in reaching the unchurched.

Though they both enjoyed the fellowship, they shared in the dream of having a pastor in the community. Gradually, under their leadership the church moved from one service each month to two. And finally in 1980, Zelma and Marvin Cowan helped the church's first full-time minister settle in his new home, the recently completed parsonage.

In the hidden recesses of his mind, Mr. Marvin perhaps knew his time of serving as "unofficial pastor" had to end. His work and influence spanned 65 plus years. Years in which he had always put others' concerns before his own. The pattern was established as he became the "man of the house" at his father's death, and cemented in eternity when he took on the responsibility of leading a small rural church through many decades of growth.

Mr. Marvin believed in allowing people to develop their potential. He chose those to assist him who apparently had no special talent, and those who were not very active. His faith in their ability often created a desire to please him, and in doing their best for him they became adept in leadership in the classroom, as deacons, and even the pulpit. He introduced new workers to the unions, conferences and denominational ministries.

He was insistent that the youth be given opportunities for service. He guided new deacons, inspired converts and always filled his place in the second pew on the right. For years, he sang in the choir, always encouraging, always supportive.

A year ago this month, Mr. Marvin's good wife fell and broke her hip. Anxiety raced through the church membership. There was concern for both, since injuries of this type many times lead to further complications. Both had been blessed with many years of good health, but they were well in their 70s and the future seemed unsure to say the least.

The congregation was happy to see that Mr. Marvin practiced well what he had always preached. Even during the first few days after her fall and the resulting surgery, he came to church, took his seat, expectantly accepting the blessings promised in the message being presented.

At that time, he was apparently healthy and functioned well. He worked on their small farm, was competent as a skilled carpenter, and he became a wonderful nurse to his ailing wife.

As fall approached, he developed a problem with his back. "Nothing serious," he said, but it was obviously quite painful. He moved very slowly, careful to find firm footing. As the pain increased, he found an old cane, taking it with him as he moved from house to barn, and from his truck to the fields.

His attention seemed to wander in conversation every now and then. He failed to hear some of the things spoken. Since he had always been so very sharp, there was concern that perhaps he was a bit more ill than he appeared.

As the days grew shorter and the air cooled during the fall months, Mr. Marvin never missed a mid-week prayer service. He cared for his wife, finished the chores and sought the solace of the little church down the road.

There, one evening in October, the pastor announced a special service had been requested. Anointing oil had been prepared and hearts were joined in prayer for Mr. Marvin. As the pastor prayed and applied the oil, the quietness was broken by deep, harsh sobs that escaped Mr. Marvin's throat. Frail shoulders shook and his hands trembled as he sought the comfort of God and the support of friends around the altar.

Only then did his deep anxiety make itself known. He had been

achingly aware for months that his strength was ebbing. Yet he had not burdened anyone with that knowledge. There was still work to be done. The church has even more growing to do. A companion depends on him to supply love, security and all the other demands brought on by her fall.

There are Board meetings to attend, grandchildren to love, neighbors to visit, widows to care for, and the lost who need praying for. He felt the need to do all these things. But now his body and mind seemed unable to comply.

As the service ended arms reached for him, encircling bent shoulders. Eyes were washed with tears, and composures faltered. The already frail man seemed to have shrunk visibly. He leaned heavily upon the youthful ones he had encouraged in the past and he seemed to gain renewed strength from their support.

As people left the altar that night, they pledged moral support and prayers for his health. They, too, found it troubling that this one who had served the Free Will Baptist denomination for so many years could be subjected to the harsh infirmities of man.

The weeks passed and the pain increased. Mr. Marvin's mind continued to wander from the printed page. Conversation was difficult and rest at night grew less and less refreshing. The prayers and holy oil had brought temporary relief, but the ravages of time and a heart that was steadily weakening were taking their toll. Life as he once knew it was slipping away.

Doctors were visited, treatments and medicine taken. Nothing restored the quickness of mind nor the purposeful movement of muscle. Swelling took place and breathing became laborious.

Mr. Marvin was taken to the local hospital where his family was told he was a victim of congestive heart failure. The gallant heart had worn out. He did not seem to be in much pain, but life was ebbing away.

Family, friends and hospital staff cared for this gentle humble man for ten days. They watched as he measured, marked and hammered imaginary carpentry jobs. Restless hands reached upward, straining to touch an elusive vision.

During quieter moments, he cupped his fingers and gingerly touched his mouth. When asked what he had in his hand, his face expressed puzzlement. Mr. Marvin replied, "It's just my cigar." He seemed to imply, "What's so strange about a man smoking his cigar?"

Not wanting to upset him, his faithful wife entered his fantasy. She warned him to be careful with the ashes and not to burn the bed linens.

The old man looked up at her, even more perplexed that she would think he would get ashes on the tangled sheets. "This cigar doesn't make ashes!" he whispered, smiling mischieviously into her eyes. She smiled back playfully and gently placed the imaginary cigar into a safer position between his fingers. "Just be careful with it," she said while patting his hand.

Three days later, Mr. Marvin touched the hand of God as He reached down from Heaven into that hospital room. Mr. Marvin stretched just high enough to grasp His hand and was instantly at home with God.

His friends and family rejoice that another saint has gone home. They like to think of him happily visiting Old Testament patriarchs, strolling through eternity with a mother and brothers who preceded im. All the while smoking "a cigar that does not make ashes."

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND RESPECT
FOR
MARVIN SHEPHERD COWAN

To the brotherhood of Free Will Baptists everywhere, and to the family and friends of Marvin S. Cowan, who went to his eternal home January 29, 1988:

BE IT HEREBY KNOWN; Whereas Marvin S. Cowan, deceased member of Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, staunch supporter of all Free Will Baptist enterprises, and faithful servant of Jesus Christ,

Did give willingly of his time and talents,
Did assist in community functions,
Did provide endless hours of service and dedication to his church,
Did promote fellowship among its members,
Did serve as treasurer of the church 53 years,
Did serve as a deacon 56 years,
Did serve as Sunday School Superintendent 36 years,
Did serve as beloved custodian and trusted teacher.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN; that as a church we will miss his handshake of goodwill, his friendly smile, and his leadership; and have pledged to leave vacant his position as deacon for one year, as a token of respect to his memory.

We, the members of Rose of Sharon Church, do hereby issue this resolution of appreciation and respect this 9th day of October, Homecoming Day, 1988.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Bailey, Church Clerk
Foy Futrelle, Pastor

# CHILD ABUSE

We encourage our children to trust people that they know, and we warn them about strangers. Yet 90 percent of the children who are abused, are abused by someone they know. The abuse takes place at home or in a relative's or friend's home. We teach our children to respect adults and we demand that they be polite and obedient. Yet experience has shown that the child who does not stand up for his/her own right is more likely to be victimized.

Though we may find the thought repulsive, child abuse happens. In 1983, there were 28,000 reported cases of child abuse in North Carolina. Research indicates that one in four girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused by age 18.

It is difficult for us to talk with our children about things that make us uncomfortable. However, our children may interpret our silence to mean that child abuse is not to be talked about. Our children need our help for a safe, happy, healthy life. They are not born with instinctual morality or the ability to discriminate between harmful and non-harmful activities.

Educate your child. Teach them to recognize, resist and report child abuse. Observe your child. Notice if he/she has problems he/she needs help with. Make good choices. Be selective about who cares for your child. Test your child. Be certain he/she knows how to use the skills you have taught them.

Parents and children must unite in the fight against child abuse.

## E•D•U•C•A•T•E

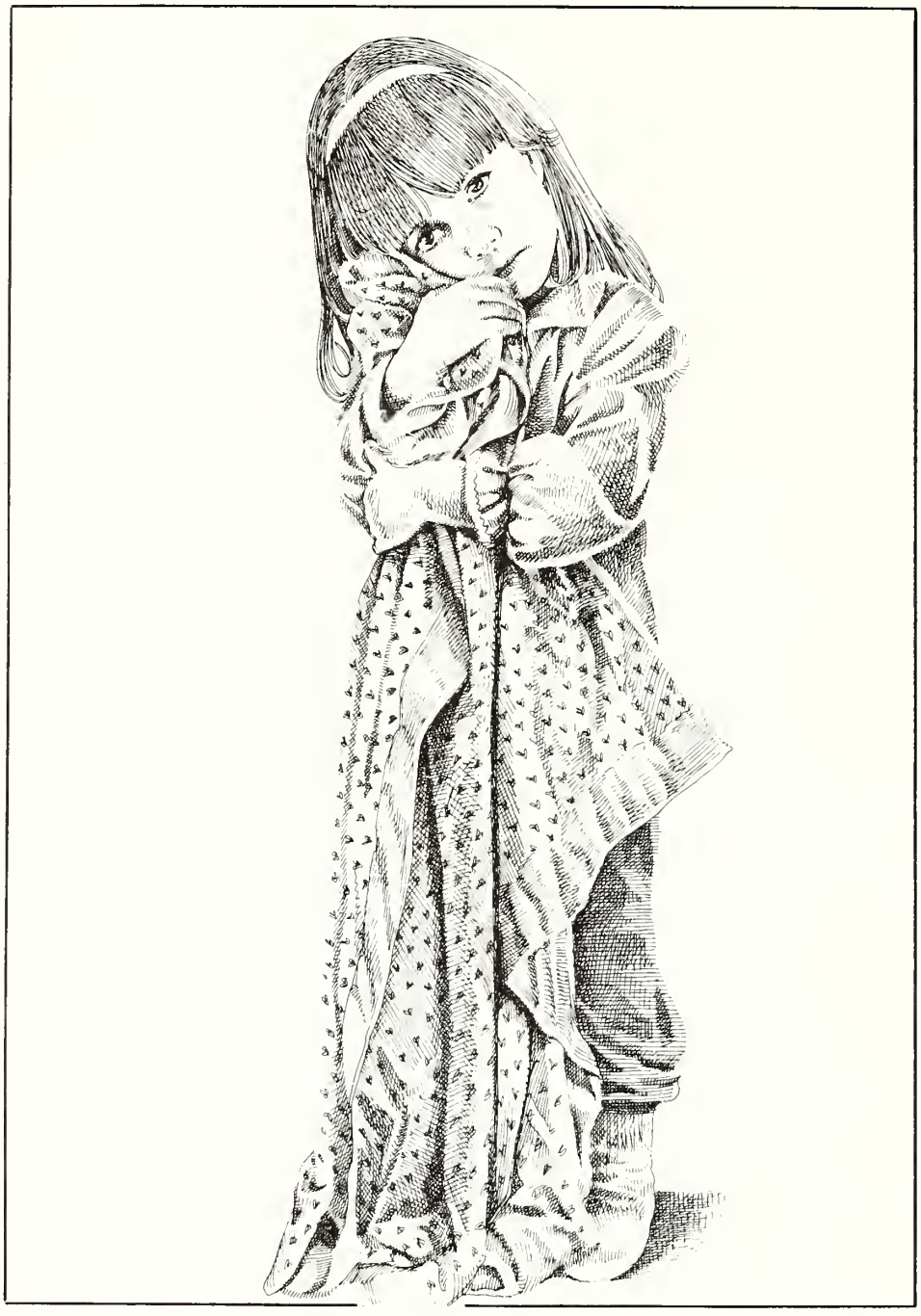
**Teach your child the 3R's of child abuse.**

### Recognizing

- ☐ Your body is your own. You have the responsibility to take care of your body and the right to privacy in bathing, dressing and sleeping.
- ☐ Your feelings are important. They make you a unique and special person. Sometimes you may have a feeling that says you should stay away from some kids because they might pick on you, even if you don't know for sure. When you have feelings like these, trust them. Tell someone how you feel.
- ☐ There are many different kinds of touches. Some touches make us feel good, like hugs. Some touches make us feel bad, like being hit or kicked. Some touches are confusing, like a hug that is too hard or tickling that no longer feels good because the person won't stop.
- ☐ No one has the right to put their hands under your clothing or on the private parts of your body that your swimsuit

(Turn the Page)





covers, even a friend or relative.

## Resisting

- ☐ Children have the right to say "NO" to people who touch them in bad or confusing ways. You have my permission to say "NO" to any adult who touches you in a way you don't like.
- ☐ If anyone touches you in a way that you don't like say "NO" in a loud voice and **get away.** Do not be afraid you are going to hurt their feelings. It is better to be safe than polite. You can always apologize later.
- ☐ If anyone asks you to touch them in a way that you don't like or that confuses you, say, "NO" in a loud voice and **get away.**

## Reporting

- ☐ Sometimes an adult or older child will ask children to keep a secret about touching. If someone threatens you or makes you "promise not to tell," we want you to tell us. Tell the adult, "We don't keep secrets in our family."
- ☐ If someone touches your private parts, it is not your fault. It is the adult's fault. The adult knows better. Someone needs to help them, too.
- ☐ You have my permission to tell if someone touches your private parts. I want you to tell me or someone who can help you. Keep telling until you get help.
- ☐ There are adults who will listen to you, believe you, and help you. Let's make a list of people you can tell if you have a problem.

## O•B•S•E•R•V•E

**Watch and Listen to Your Child.** Although children may not discuss a child abuse incident directly, they usually ask for help in their own way.

Have you noticed . . .?

### ☐ Behavioral Symptoms

- ☐ Changes in behavior at school or home: withdrawal, inattentiveness or other unusual behavior;
- ☐ Sleep disturbances: fear of sleeping alone, bedwetting or nightmares;
- ☐ New fears: fear of males, fear of females, fear of being touched by an adult;
- ☐ An unexplained attachment to a particular person or a reluctance to be with a particular person;
- ☐ A sudden decrease or increase in appetite;

- ☐ Preoccupation with sexual matters inappropriate to the child's age;
- ☐ Behavior more like that of a younger child: clinging, thumbsucking.

These symptoms do not necessarily mean that a child is being abused. These behaviors do mean something is bothering the child and the situation should be investigated.

### ☐ Physical Signs of Physical Abuse

- ☐ Unexplained bruises and/or welts;
- ☐ Unexplained burns;
- ☐ Human bite marks;
- ☐ Fractures, especially spiral fractures from twisting.

### ☐ Physical Signs of Sexual Abuse

- ☐ Irritation, pain or injury to the genital area;
- ☐ Vaginal or penile discharge;
- ☐ Venereal disease;
- ☐ Torn, stained or bloody underclothing;
- ☐ Early pregnancy;
- ☐ Difficulty with urination.

## C•H•O•O•S•E

**Select the Best Child Care Facility.**

Selecting a safe and healthy child care situation is extremely important. Although the vast majority of North Carolina's preschools and child care centers are safe places, these settings should be a source of concern to parents. In making your decision, consider the following:

- ☐ Check to make sure a program is reputable. State and local licensing agencies, the local law-enforcement agency, child care referral services and community agencies may be helpful sources of information.
- ☐ Find out as much as possible about their teachers and caregivers. Learn about a school or center's hiring policies. How do they recruit and select staff? Ask if references, background checks and previous employment histories are investigated.
- ☐ Find out what the school's attitude is towards parental participation. May the parents drop in and visit at any time? There is no legitimate reason whatsoever not to allow you to drop in and observe your child.
- ☐ Make sure you are informed about all outings and that you give specific permission for each one individually.
- ☐ Always check references for babysitters or leaders of organizations that your child is involved in.

## T•E•S•T

**Be Sure Your Child Can Answer The Following Questions.**

- ☐ Name a good touch. Name a bad touch. Name a confusing touch.
- ☐ What would you do if someone touched you in a way you didn't like? Even someone you love and trust?
- ☐ What would you do if someone touched your private parts while putting you to bed?
- ☐ What would you do if someone wanted you to keep a secret from your mom or dad?
- ☐ Who is a stranger?
- ☐ What would you do if a stranger put his hand on your leg?
- ☐ What would you do if someone asked you to come into their home without your parent's permission?
- ☐ Do you know your home and parent's work phone numbers, and how to use a push button and rotary phone?
- ☐ Who would you tell if you had a friend who you knew was being hurt or had a bad secret?

## R•E•S•O•U•R•C•E•S

**Where Can I Get Help?**

- ☐ Your County Department of Social Services (DSS)
- ☐ Your Local Law Enforcement Agency
- ☐ Your Local Rape Crisis Center
- ☐ Your Local Hospital or Clinic
- ☐ CARE LINE: 1-800-662-7030
- ☐ Parents Anonymous: 1-800-421-0353
- ☐ National Center for Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse: 1-800-843-5678
- ☐ N.C. Council on the Status of Women: (919) 733-2455
- ☐ Victim and Justice Services Division N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety: 1-800-522-KIDS or (919) 733-7974
- ☐ North Carolina Center for Missing Children and Child Victimization: 1-800-522-KIDS (5437)

## R•E•P•O•R•T•I•N•G

Anyone who suspects child abuse is required by North Carolina law to report their suspicions to the Department of Social Services. An individual who makes a report in good faith is protected from civil and criminal liability.

Only you can break the chain of abuse. You may even save a child's life. Wouldn't you want help if it were you?

Call and give the following information:

- ☐ Child's name, age, and address
- ☐ Child's present location
- ☐ Parents' name and address
- ☐ Parent's place of employment and address (if known)
- ☐ Nature and extent of the injury or condition observed
- ☐ Reporter's name and location (if not wishing to remain anonymous)
- ☐ Name and address of alleged perpetrator if not the parent.

Material prepared by Crime Prevention Division, North Carolina of Crime Control and Public Safety, Box 27687, Raleigh, NC 27687.

# PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED



Paul's letter to the Ephesians was to bring awareness of mission needs. ". . . that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts" (Ephesians 6:22).

Awareness brings one's mission vision into focus. Awareness enables one to pray, to see a need for giving, and to be serious about surrendering to God's call. Christians are usually spurred to interest when they see a genuine need (human emptiness and despair). They are moved when they see God working in the lives of others.

For the next several months, we will look at different ways that young people can serve others. When your church group does something special, write and tell us about it. (Don't forget to send pictures!) Send your articles to Janie Jones Sowers, Box 159, Ayden, NC 28513.

**GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITIES**

A handicapped person is quick to detect feelings of pity or overprotection and resents them. Love and understanding rather than pity should be the motivating force behind one's desire to help.

Remember, a handicap in one area does not mean that a person has no abilities in other areas.

Not all persons can work with the handicapped. Sometimes the one trying to work with a retarded child becomes so depressed he is emotionally shattered; then no one is helped. Instead, damage may result. This does not mean that this person cannot help someone else. Each of us has a place to fill in ministry to others.

**PROJECT SUGGESTIONS**

**Help in Schools**—Nearly every state provides a school for handicapped children. If you live in a city where such a school is located, opportunities for you to help will be endless. The majority of state schools require a person to be fourteen years old in order to do volunteer service. Most schools also require one to fill out a volunteer service application before he is allowed to work. Check with the school to find out exactly what is required to become a volunteer worker.

In schools, the number of things you will be able to do is limited only by the amount of time you can spend. Volunteer workers are needed to do the little "extras" which staff members do not have time to do. You may accompany children to the playground, watch to see that they do not hurt themselves on the equipment, and report any accident to a staff member if something should happen. Patients who cannot walk alone need to be pushed in strollers or walkers. Most schools also have indoor recreational facilities where the children play; but again, they must be supervised. Some of the children must be fed and dressed. Every time a volunteer takes over a job, a staff member is freed to do something else.

Children who must remain in bed get stiff and need to be exercised. Volunteers can provide simple physical therapy which will be of great value to the patients. The physical therapist can show you what routines to follow and work with you until you know what to do.

When a volunteer starts working at a school, he should go through a period of training. He should watch skilled volunteers until he is sure of what will be required of him.



**Assist the Family**—Many of the same things you do for a handicapped person in a school may be done in a home. Fresh air and sunshine for example are needed; and, for safety purposes, when a severely handicapped person is outdoors someone must be with him constantly. There are exercise programs he can do if someone will show him what steps to follow. Perhaps your group could learn these exercises and take turns relieving the family of these routines. Sometimes a group may plan with their counselor to take a retarded person to a park, a circus, or on another outing. There may be times when other children in the family need a baby-sitter while the mother takes the handicapped child to the doctor or therapist.

**Adopt the Handicapped**—Five or six guys in your youth group may want to "adopt" a handicapped person. Two young people could be responsible for helping each week. Try not to assign more than six people to a person, so that he can get to know each youth well.

**Talking Bible**—The American Bible Society has "talking Bible" records which are enjoyed by blind persons and those who cannot read. Write to the American Bible Society, P.O. Box 5656, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017, for a catalogue listing. Then order and use these with those with whom you are privileged to work. If you have a local Lighthouse for the Blind, someone there also many suggest records. Or, your local library may be able to help.

**Holiday Decorations**—If a state school is near you, perhaps you could help decorate for holidays. You also could do this in the home of a handicapped person or an older person.

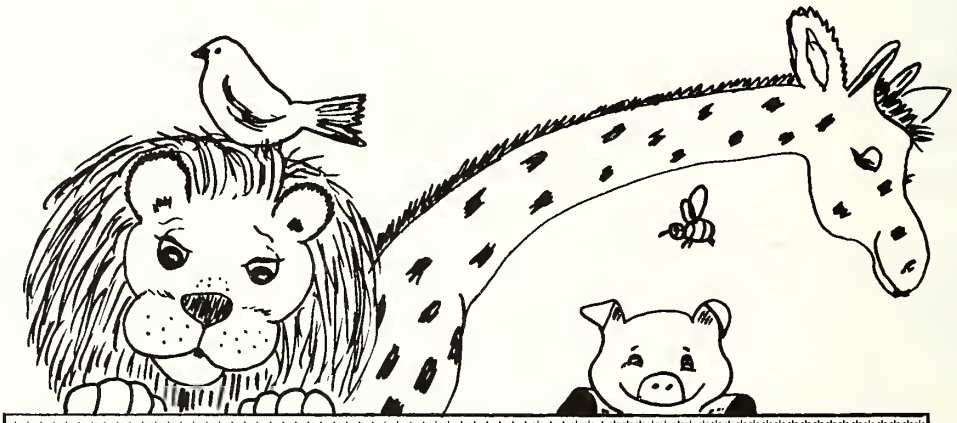
**Christmas Caroling**—At the Christmas season, everyone enjoys hearing the familiar carols. Plan to go caroling to the homes of shut-ins, handicapped persons, or older persons. A hospital or state institution may allow you to sing in certain wards. First, call to see if this would be permitted and what instructions you should follow.

**Fill a Stocking**—Receiving a Christmas stocking full of candy, fruit, and small gifts would delight children in hospital wards or special schools. Small, inexpensive toys suitable for a restricted play area can be found in variety stores.

# NOAH AND THE ANIMALS

When we are asked, "How many animals did Noah take into the ark?", we usually answer, "Two of each kind, male and female." While our answer is correct, there is more to the story than this. During the time of Noah, some animals were considered clean and others unclean. Noah took seven pairs of clean animals and fowls of the air and only one pair of unclean animals into the ark. Read about this in Genesis 7:2-3.

In the word search, find each of the animals listed and circle each one. Look across, down, diagonally, forwards, and backwards.



FLY
EWE
ANT
TOAD
ZEBRA
COW
BEAR
DOVE
LION
DOG
LEOPARD
DEER
OWL
ELEPHANT
RAT
YAK
ELK
SWAN
GOAT
TIGER
APE
SEAL
OX
MOUSE
PIG
MONKEY
GIRAFFE
RABBIT
CAMEL

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | R | M | E | F | Y | L | F | W | L |
| R | E | F | O | L | E | V | O | D | E |
| E | G | R | A | T | K | A | Y | S | O |
| L | I | O | N | E | N | X | U | H | P |
| E | T | G | I | P | O | O | W | L | A |
| P | N | G | C | A | M | E | L | R | R |
| H | A | O | T | N | S | E | A | L | D |
| A | W | D | A | D | P | B | E | A | R |
| N | S | N | O | A | B | E | L | W | E |
| T | T | W | G | I | R | A | F | F | E |
| D | A | O | T | A | R | B | E | Z | D |

**Free Will Baptist Children's Home**

Meeting The . . .
Challenge




Whitley Center
—
physical education building

The Board of Directors of the
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME
cordially invites you to the
Dedication of WHITLEY CENTER
beginning with lunch
Saturday, November 12, 1988
Twelve o'clock



The State Convention has designated November as CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH and November 13, 1988, as CHILDREN'S HOME DAY. On behalf of our children, we wish to thank you for your prayers and support for your child care ministry. Your support is helping us meet the challenge of providing "A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS."



**DISTINGUISHED PILLAR MEMBERS OF WHITLEY CENTER**
**As of 10/1/88**

Those churches, Sunday School Classes, Woman's Auxiliaries, Layman's Leagues, Youth Groups, businesses and individuals, who share a gift of $1,000 or more, will become Distinguished Pillar Members of Whitley Center and their name will be engraved on a permanent plaque that will hang in Whitley Center. This gift may be pledged over a two-year period and paid in 25 monthly payments of $40, or eight quarterly payments of $125.

Mrs. Betty Batts
Casey's Chapel Guiding Light Class
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Coates
Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company
Mrs. Alma Dale
The Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Daughtry
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Davenport
The Duke Endowment
Mrs. Anna H. Dupree
Everett Chapel Church
Folkstone Church
The Janirve Foundation
Edwards Electric Co., Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Charlie T. Kittrell
Peoples Bank and Trust Company
Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper
Jackson Builders, Inc.
Reedy Branch Church
Robert's Grove Layman's League and Woman's Auxiliary
Ronnie's Truck Service
Saints Delight Church
St. Mary's Church (Western)
Mr. Jerry A. Smith
The Rev. Robert L. Strickland
White Oak Grove Church
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Godwin
The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor
Bethlehem Church
Tee's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary
The Heritage Bank
Forest Pope Family
Mrs. Helen T. Beaman
In Honor of the Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson by Reedy Branch Church

# Friends of Children...

# a special way to share.

The Friends of Children program is a special program of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. To identify the program we looked to the meaning of *friend;* we found this meaning in *The Random House Dictionary:* "A person attached to another by feelings of affection or personal regard; a patron or supporter."

This program gives you the opportunity to contribute to the care of and ministry to children. It identifies you as a special friend with an on-going Christian concern for children in need and their future. It allows us to recognize you and your commitment in providing for the well-being of children. Friends of Children are individuals or groups who are reaching out beyond themselves and sharing their resources with girls and boys. Your sharing will provide them with a home, clothing, medical care, education, love, spiritual guidance and a chance to develop to their fullest God-given ability. Being a part of this program brings you many rewards.

First, you are blessed because you are in the truest sense helping those who cannot help themselves.

Second, you are a part of a work and ministry that is larger than yourself.

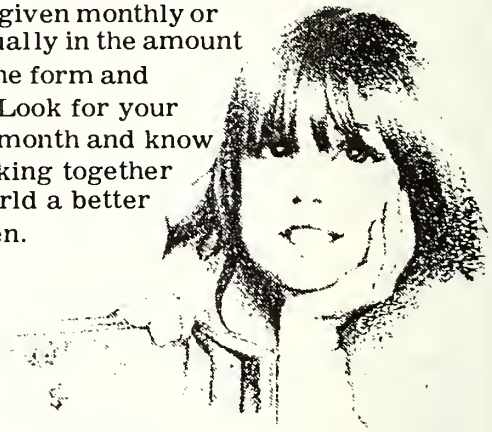
Third, you are giving hope and a future to a child.

Fourth, you can take pride in what you are doing in a Christian child care ministry.

As this program developed we realized that many individuals and groups would want to participate. Those who would participate would be individuals who have a concern and commitment for children and the ministry to children. Because of your participation in this ministry, we want to take this opportunity to say "Thank you." Thank you for ensuring the future of the children we serve and giving them a chance to succeed in their endeavors.

The Friends of Children program is very important. Your sharing in this program distinguishes you in a distinctive way. You will be presented with the **Friends of Children's Award,** which is a personalized plaque that identifies you as a participant. You will receive a monthly news note of current activities, and we will be inviting you, at your convenience, to special events.

How do you share in the Friends of Children program? By gift support in the amount of $20 per month. This gift may be given monthly or contributed annually in the amount of $240. Fill out the form and return it today. Look for your news note each month and know that we are working together to make this world a better place for children.



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**FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTRY TO CHILDREN**
**"Friends of Children"**
**Statement of Faith**

Because of my/our concern, commitment and support to children, and the child care ministry of Original Free Will Baptists, I/we will contribute a minimum of $20 per month. Each month a news note will be mailed to me regarding current activities.

Name (Person/s or Group) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Church _____

Enclosed you will find my first gift of $ _____ I plan to begin _____

Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on the award. Normally you will receive your award by mail within 30 days.

## FRIENDS OF CHILDREN

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby W. Ackiss
Goldsboro, NC

Arapahoe Senior High Sunday School Class
Arapahoe, NC

Juanita E. Aycock
Kenly, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Gary Bailey
Goldsboro, NC

Mr. John H. Banks
Newton, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Don Batchelor
Black Creek, NC

Mrs. Betty D. Batts
Lucama, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Beddard
Goldsboro, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bedford
Goldsboro, NC

Bethany Deacons
Bethany Church
Ayden, NC

Bethany Woman's Auxiliary
Winterville, NC

Bethany Eva Edwards Sunday School Class
Ayden, NC

Ms. Peggy Biggs
Greenville, NC

Mrs. Sherry Blanton
Raleigh, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Blount
Mount Olive, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Booth
Ayden, NC

Boykin's Upholstering Service
Wilson, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Clovis Boykin
Middlesex, NC

Mrs. Ann Brewer
Aurora, NC

Mrs. Hazel Brown
Rockingham, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Bundy
Middlesex, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Roney Bunn Jr.
Kenly, NC

Mr. and Mrs. James Cahoon
Columbia, NC

The Rev. Jerry A. Campbell
Clemmons, NC

Cape Fear Youth Fellowship
Fayetteville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Carter
Pikeville, NC

Casey's Chapel Church
Guiding Light Sunday School Class
Goldsboro, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Jesse Caton
Garner, NC

Champion Design and Fabrication, Inc.
Wilson, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cherry
Kinston, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Corbett
Middlesex, NC

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Cratt
Williamston, NC

Mr. Alan Cuddington
Kenly, NC

Mrs. Alma Dale
Goldsboro, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Daughtry
Kenly, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Person Daughtry
Smithfield, NC

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Davenport
Winterville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Michael B. Denton
Winterville, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. De W. Eakes
Lucama, NC

East Rockingham Women's Class
Rockingham, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards
Wilson, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Evans
Tarboro, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Hyman L. Faulkner
El Paso, TX

The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Flowers
Pikeville, NC

Folkstone Men's Fellowship
Sneads Ferry, NC

Free Union Layman's League
Walstonburg, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Foy C. Futrelle
Robersonville, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Francis Garner
Newport, NC

Mrs. Rose G. Gassaway
New Bern, NC

Mrs. Sue H. Gay
Walstonburg, NC

Miss Donna J. Glisson
Greenville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Glover
Pikeville, NC

Mrs. Kitty Glover
Pikeville, NC

Wayne and Denise Gordon
Middlesex, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs
Philippines

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hales
Pikeville, NC

Mr. Ray Hardee
Greenville, NC

Harrell's Chapel YFA
Hookerton, NC

Harrells Chapel Young Adult Sunday School Class
Snow Hill, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Harrison
Williamston, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hatcher
Zebulon, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Haugen
Durham, NC

Hickory Grove Adult 1 and 2 Sunday School Classes
Robersonville, NC

Holly Springs Woman's Auxiliary
Newport, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Hood
Pikeville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Howard
Sneads Ferry, NC

Mrs. Sarah P. Howell
Warsaw, NC

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr.
Lucama, NC

Mrs. Ann R. Johnson
Snow Hill, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Johnson
Columbia, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Jones
Newton Grove, NC

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jones
Pikeville, NC

Mr. Ken Keevert
High Point, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Keevert
Middlesex, NC

Liz Brinchek Young Adult Class
Kenly, NC

Kenly Woman's Auxiliary
Kenly, NC

Lois Kennedy Sunday School Class
Kenly, NC

La Grange Woman's Auxiliary
La Grange, NC

Albemarle Layman's League
Elizabeth City, NC

Mr. John Lee
Wilson, NC

Little Creek Layman's League
Ayden, NC

Little Creek Woman's Auxiliary
Ayden, NC

Little River Corporation
Spring Hope, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Liverman
Columbia, NC

Mrs. Lillie Liverman
Columbia, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Billy R. Maitland
Columbia, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie L. Manning
Snow Hill, NC

Marsh Swamp Friendship Class
Kenly, NC

Marsh Swamp Sunday School Class
Wilson, NC

Marsh Swamp Woman's Auxiliary
Sims, NC

Marsh Swamp Layman's League
Kenly, NC

Mrs. Ida M. McCaffity
Vanceboro, NC

Mrs. Elsie McCoy
Hookerton, NC

Miss Leah McGlohon
Winterville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McLawhorn
Ayden, NC

Mrs. Maggie B. McLawhorn
Winterville, NC

Mr. Philip R. Mercer
Richlands, NC

Mr. Denver Mitchell
Goldsboro, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Mothershead
Pikeville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Norris
Smithfield, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Overman
Ayden, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Thomas M. Parrish
Wadesboro, NC

Doris B. Peedin
Selma, NC

Dr. and Mrs. Cedric D. Pierce Jr.
Pikeville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. David C. Pittman
Lucama, NC

Pleasant Hill Auxiliary
Ayden, NC

Mrs. Geneva Pope
Goldsboro, NC

Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper
Mount Olive, NC

Reedy Branch Willis Wilson Class
Winterville, NC

Reedy Branch Fidelis Sunday School Class
Winterville, NC

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley
New Bern, NC

Robert's Grove Layman's League
Dunn, NC

Robert's Grove Vanguard II Sunday School Class
Dunn, NC

Rock of Zion Adult Sunday School Class
Bayboro, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rogers
Ayden, NC

Rose Hill Sunday School
Winterville, NC

Rose of Sharon Woman's Auxiliary
Williamston, NC

Mr. Earl J. Ross
Durham, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Roughton
Columbia, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Rouse
Snow Hill, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rouse
Ayden, NC

Sherron Acres Currie Bible Class
Durham, NC

Sherron Acres Ladd-Smith Bible Class
Durham, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner
Winterville, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Sopher
Middlesex, NC

Soundside Youth Class
Columbia, NC

Stancil's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary
Middlesex, NC

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Stocks
Winterville, NC

Stoney Creek Young Women's Circle
Goldsboro, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stott
Garner, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Sullivan
Wilson, NC

Ms. Becky Jo Sumner
Ahoskie, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Sutton
Hookerton, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor
Middlesex, NC

Mr. and Mrs. W. Hubert Taylor
Wilson, NC

Tee's Chapel Mixed Adult Sunday School Class
Princeton, NC

Tee's Chapel Ladies Auxiliary
Smithfield, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Tew
Dunn, NC

"The Group"
Wendell, NC

Mrs. Ima Thompson
Pine Level, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford G. Thompson
Princeton, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. Billy Toler
Fremont, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Donnie R. Tyndall
New Bern, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Vanhorne
Columbia, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin P. Vester
Wilson, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Rand W. Wade
Snow Hill, NC

Mr. Franklin L. Watson
Wilson, NC

The Rev. and Mrs. John Williams
Black Mountain, NC

Ms. Sara M. Willoughby
Ahoskie, NC

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Worthington
Kinston, NC



**CHRISTMAS SPONSORSHIP**

Have you finished your shopping yet? Are you sure you haven't forgotten to include someone special on your shopping list? Perhaps you didn't know that there are a few children who are not on anyone's list! Christmas sponsors are so important to our children, because it is such a tender time when love speaks so clearly through sharing. Each year we try to provide one sponsor for every child in our care. Sponsors may simply send $100 for each child sponsored, or call our office for the Christmas list of a child and purchase the gifts for them. We need to receive Christmas sponsorships by the first of December to allow us time to complete our shopping. Won't you consider adding one of our children to your Christmas list? You will be the one to receive the greatest gift!

## REC CENTER GETS NEW ROOF



Thirteen young men from Pleasant Grove Church, Cape Fear Conference, spent their Saturday, October 1, 1988, on the roof of the Children's Home Recreation Center. They volunteered their time and hard work because of their commitment to God and the children we serve.

There was a feeling of love in the air as the men worked together so well putting on the new shingles. There's just something about being with other Christians as you work together to serve others.

A special "Thank you" to these men who gave so much to help us continue meeting the challenge of providing "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

## HULL ROAD CHURCH VISITS CHILDREN'S HOME



Shown above are the members of Hull Road Church that visited the Children's Home on Saturday, October 1, 1988. They arrived around 10 a.m. and enjoyed a tour of our campus. Highlights of the tour included two cottages, Heritage Hall and Whitley Center. The young people enjoyed the game room best. At noon, everyone met at the center of campus and enjoyed a picnic lunch including a wiener roast. The Rev. Leon Grubbs is pastor of Hull Road Church and also a member of the Children's Home Board of Directors. Thank you for visiting and sharing your day with our children.

## A NEW CONGREGATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*



The Rev. Masih Charan

For almost two years we worked in the rural villages on the bank of the River Ganges (the second biggest river in our state). Last year, we felt the need of placing two deacons in that area. They worked hard and brought up one big congregation of 229 active church members. Some of these people who were baptized by us come from a Salvation Army background.

As the need of a full-time pastor was inevitable we raised Masih Charan, an educated person, to take up this responsibility. He was ordained as a minister by our ordaining council on July 1, 1988, and entrusted with the full-time work of the church. He has 13 villages to visit as per his convenience and need.

We covet prayers for this newly ordained minister and his congregation that they might grow under His grace.

## BILSI CONGREGATION DONATES LARGE PROPERTY TO THE CHURCH

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

August 7, 1988, was a day of rejoicing and thanksgiving, when

(Turn the Page)

the local congregation of Bilsi circuit came forward in true stewardship donating a large property to our church for the purpose of a parsonage, church and school. It has not been too long ago that we established our church work in Bilsi and found a place in the heart of these people.

This congregation has a Methodist background, which ceased working with this congregation about 20 years ago. In spite of their best efforts, they could not unite and form a church, as there were dissensions among them regarding the faith and covenant of other church denominations. They first studied our faith and treatise. Then they had a couple of dialogues with us. After knowing that we are a biblical church, they united with us.

The Rev. Basant Masih, who lives about 5 miles away from Bilsi, was ordained as a deacon in November, 1987, when our Director-Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones, was amidst us. Subsequently as the need grew, he was elevated as a fully active minister of this church. (We appreciate his services and the way he is in relationship with his congregation.)

As the Lord guided them, they came forward, donating a large piece of property to our church denomination, valued about $10,000. As we met with the local church committee on August 7, 1988, we offered our thanks to the Lord for this great need being met. The old parsonage can be used after some repairs and the rest of the land is ample enough for school and church buildings.

We solicit your prayers for this congregation, that it may come closer to the Lord and share the responsibility of construction of the church as early as possible.

## CHAPLAIN HOBBS RESEARCHES AT MOC

When vacation is mentioned, most people think of going to the beach, the mountains or just traveling; however, United States Air Force Chaplain Mark S. Hobbs, a 1978 graduate of Mount Olive College, thinks of MOC's Moye Library.

On leave from Sheppard AFB, near Wichita Falls, Texas, Chaplain Hobbs has been busy researching the individual conference minutes of the Original Free Will Baptists and editorials in issues of *The Free Will Baptist,* in hopes of finding references to wartime. His research covers the time during World War I and World War II.

"Being a chaplain in the Air Force and being raised Free Will Baptist, I thought it would be interesting to find out how the Free Will Baptist Church addressed the subject of war," stated Chaplain Hobbs, who was raised near Smithfield and attended Hopewell Church. "I haven't found any significant statements about the war, but my research has still been worthwhile," he stated. "I would recommend a week of research in the historical room for anyone interested in the Free Will Baptist Church."

In addition to his research on the Free Will Baptist Church, Chaplain Hobbs also spent his week talking with students and faculty at Mount Olive College. "My work as chaplain involves counseling young recruits directly after they have gone through six weeks of basic training. I felt talking to freshmen would give me an idea of their adjustment to college life and how it differs from the transition period that my young recruits must endure."

Chaplain Hobbs said that Mount Olive College students have a good transition period because they are treated as people and are given the opportunity to develop a one-on-one relationship with the faculty. However, the transition period for young recruits is more difficult because they are sent to so many different bases. He instructs between 3500-5000 recruits at Sheppard AFB in a three and one-half hour Adult Value Session on the recruits' second day at the Base. The session, a requirement for all Air Force personnel, allows Chaplain Hobbs to meet and talk



Pictured are Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College, and United States Air Force Chaplain Mark S. Hobbs looking over editorials from 1940 issues of *The Free Will Baptist.*

to the recruits on a personal basis.

"I want the recruits to know that no matter what their background, God plays an important part in their life," Chaplain Hobbs emphasized.

Before entering the Air Force in May, 1986, Chaplain Hobbs pastored five years at First Church, Rocky Mount, and served as interim pastor at Daly's Chapel, Cape Fear Conference. He has also served in youth ministry at Johnston Union and Hopewell Churches.

"I enjoy my service in the military," said Chaplain Hobbs. "It gives me the opportunity to share with others the good news that life does not need to be lived in fear or darkness."

### FOUNDER'S DAY

Claude H. Moore, professor emeritus of Mount Olive College, will give the annual Founder's Day address Tuesday, November 22, at 11 a.m., in College Hall.

Mr. Moore, a professor of history, taught at Mount Olive College from 1968 until his retirement in 1981. Although retired as a full-time professor, he continues to teach night classes in North Carolina History and Geography.

Founder's Day is open to all friends of the College.



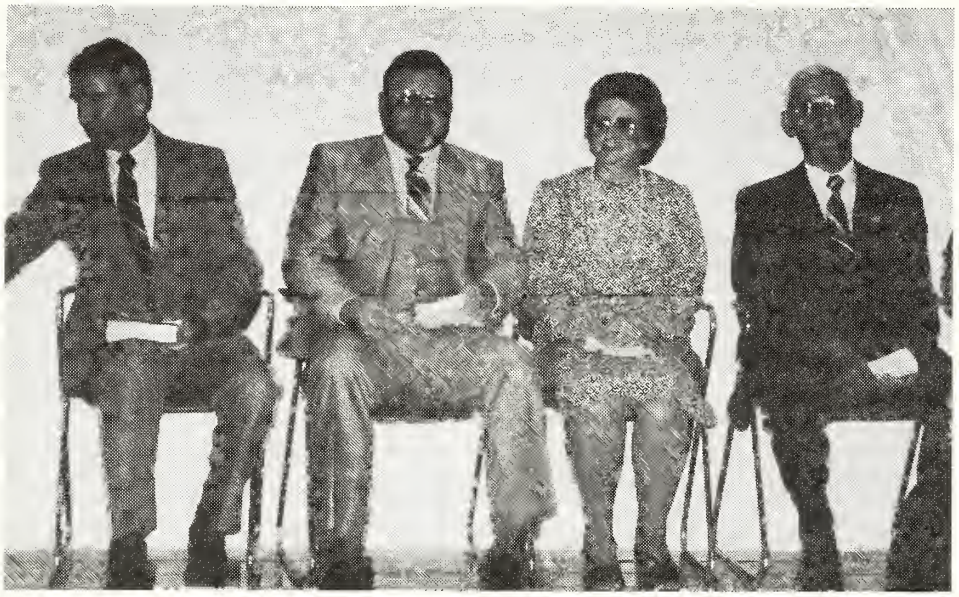
**Honored at Bridge Builders dinner**—Sheri Noonan (middle), a 1980 graduate of Mount Olive College, and her husband Mike Noonan (right) receive a special Bridge Builders license plate from President W. Burkette Raper honoring them as Bridge Builders at Mount Olive College. The Noonans, who are members of Holly Springs Church in Carteret County, were among 813 Bridge Builders at the 1987 dinners. Bridge Builders, who contributed a total of $118,563 in 1987, are those who make gifts to one of three clubs: College Club, $100-499; President's Club, $500-999; and the Trustee's Club, $1000 or more; at one of the 17 annual MOC gift support dinners. More than 350 people attended the Bridge Builders dinner which was held September 24 in College Hall (photo by Nelson Bland/*Mount Olive Tribune*).



The Free Will Baptist Fellowship has begun yet another successful year at Mount Olive College. They are planning many exciting activities for the coming year so look for stories on them in future issues. Pictured are members of Free Will Baptist Fellowship for the 1988-89 year. They are: (sitting left to right) Nancy Boykin, student advisor; Scott Beaman, treasurer; Michelle Taylor, president; Wendy Edwards, secretary; (standing left to right) Michael Arthur, Diana Nowell, Wendy Lamm, Randy Cobb, David Ealy, Mary Neel, Dianne Riley, advisor. Not pictured are Phil Brown, vice president; Jeff Grubbs, Tina Wetherington, and Melody Register.

## STATE CONVENTION MISSIONS RALLY

*by Harold Jones*





"Revive us, O Lord!" was the theme of this year's Missions Rally, held on Wednesday night of the State Convention. There was an excitement in the air as people arrived from various churches across our state. The Lord ministered to us through prayer, song, testimony and His Word. The Valley Airs, from Pikeville, blessed us with song. Linda Baker, missionary to the Philippines, shared a precious testimony and Fred Baker delivered a message from the Lord on the need for revival.

The purpose of the Rally was to arouse the concerns of our churches for the need of spiritual renewal and to point the way to revival. **The key to revival is prayer.** We joined in prayer for revival at the Rally, but for true revival to come and remain, we must pray daily for revival. I encourage you to enter your prayer closet each day and ask the Lord for revival for yourself and for all churches. Pray for revival in small groups and in your church assemblies. The desire of God is to bless us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

The offering for Home and Foreign Missions exceeded $33,000. Join us in praise!

### DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

Each year at the State Convention, several of our ministries ask the State Convention to endorse special months to emphasize their particular ministry. One of the months that Foreign Missions asks for each year is *December.*

There are three things that I ask you to remember in December:

*First,* I encourage you to continue in prayer for Foreign Missions. I know already that many of you pray daily and your prayers give strength to this ministry. Encourage special prayer during the month for wisdom, open doors and laborers.

*Second,* Please pray about your special gift to Foreign Missions during the month of December. One of the most fitting ways to celebrate the Christmas season is by sharing to take the gospel message of our Lord Jesus Christ around the world.

*Third,* Pray daily for revival. Revival has already begun in some of our churches, where from a sincere heart the people are seeking Christ in His fulness. We must commit ourselves to pray for continuous revival until Jesus comes.

I am serious about prayer and these prayer requests. I pray that the Lord will guide your mind to remember these prayer concerns and that it will be a daily, year-round concern.

# A WISE INVESTMENT

*by Donald Fader*

(in vest′ ment)—The act of investing; a laying out of money for something that is expected to produce a profit or benefit.

Everyone is familiar with investments. We invest money into banks and Savings and Loans, expecting to earn the interest that is promised. We sometimes invest in stocks and bonds, hoping to experience a return. It is said that your home is an investment, and if you bought several years ago, then you could probably sell it for a handsome profit. You also invest in your children by paying for opportunities that you didn't have growing up, opportunities like computers, music, sports and college. You see this outlay as a growing experience, hoping that the benefits reaped later on in life will justify the cost. Investments are something that you are all aware of and you are also aware of how important it is to make wise investments.

Our churches also make investments. Travel to any part of the state and you will see churches that have come together and invested in land, buildings and equipment. There are humble houses of worship that cost very little and then there are magnificent edifices that cost millions of dollars. Even within our own denomination we have invested heavily in the physical plant of the church. We are proud of the church in which we worship and the building reflects that pride. Only the best is good enough for God and we have made our church buildings beautiful houses of worship dedicated to the glory of God. Only the best for God is an Old Testament concept that still holds sway even today and we should never consider anything less than our best when we serve Him.

Why is it then that when we look for a pastor to come to our church we look for the least expensive man we can find? We invest all this time and money to build a place to worship but when it comes time to provide the leadership necessary for our local church, we convince ourselves that cheaper is better. Perhaps we sit back and say that God has called this man to preach and He will supply his needs. Well, this is true, but do you know how God intends to supply those needs? He intends for His church to meet the needs of the ministry. The minister is not fed with manna from high but he shops at the local grocery store just like you. When he is called to make a pastoral visit to an out-of-town hospital, he does not travel on a heavenly chariot but usually in his car, with gas that is paid for out of his pocket. The point is this, we invest in buildings, land and equipment; but it is now time to invest in the ministry. Paul used his letter to the Church at Corinth to outline the principle of support for the ministry.

We deceive ourselves when we think that that nice physical plant is what a congregation needs or what a visitor wants to see. An effective program that reaches the needs of the individual is what we need to provide. The church has a responsibility to seek out those that are hurting and those that are lost, and provide a way for them to find Jesus. The minister provides the leadership that we need in this endeavor and we must be certain that it is the best leadership we can find. For the record, we must note that salary and benefits do not a minister make, but on the other hand, if you do not support the minister at a level where he can provide for his family and responsibilities, then he cannot provide the leadership. Compensation is an indication of the congregation's assessment of the worth of its pastor.

It is no secret that low pay can interfere with your church's ministry. If you are paid well and are able to make ends meet, then you worry less about your bills and more about your job. The same truth applies to the minister. While we think we are getting a bargain because we have kept the minister's salary low, we don't know what it cost us in the area of growth, income and ministry.

It is not unusual for a minister to switch jobs in order to find a job that allows him to provide for his family—even if it means leaving the pastoral ministry. Today, ministers of the Free Will Baptist Church have an average age of 50½ years. This is significant because the age of our ministers is increasing at a rapid rate. Where will churches find a minister 20 years from now when the average age of our ministers is 70 years old?

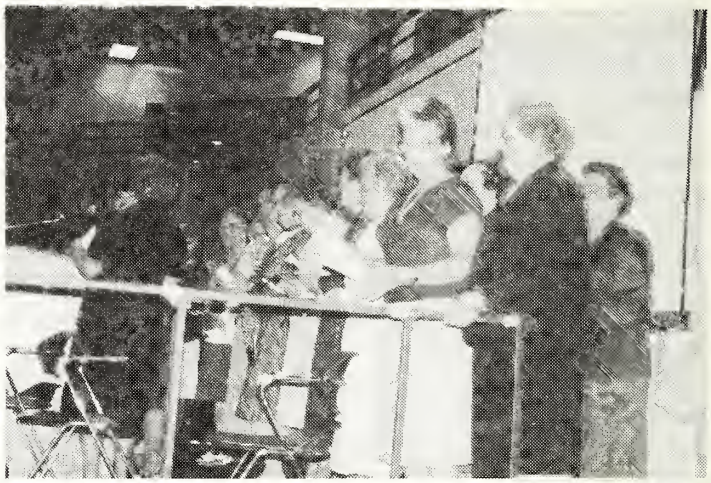


Only God can call a minister; but the church is the only institution that can provide for him. God is calling men today that are not considering the pastorate because of their perception of low pay. Pastors do not expect to get wealthy but they are interested in providing the basic for their family just like you. If we are going to encourage our brightest, most enthusiastic young men that God has called, then we simply must pay them a living wage.

There is no way of knowing what your return will be when you invest in the ministry. But low pay is a signal that you do not expect much; *and* that is what you get. Show your pastor that you appreciate him and his efforts; *and* you will have a minister today *and* years from now.

## SCENES FROM CRAGMONT REUNION



















## CRAGMONT

THE SUMMER'S END REUNION that took place September 16, 1988, was a good experience. We had about 140 people to join us for the evening meal. At 7 p.m., each summer conference had an opportunity to present slides, skits, singing, or something that would characterize their week. An offering of $600 was taken for Cragmont. Our plan is to make this an annual event.

CORNERSTONE? This is Cragmont's newest retreat weekend scheduled for November 25-27, 1988. It is patterned after Morning Star, the spring women's retreat held the weekend following Easter. We think we have picked the ideal weekend—Thanksgiving. Get the family all filled and satisfied on a turkey dinner on Thursday. They can live off the leftovers all weekend while you join us to receive some nourishment of another type. The cost is $40 per person. To register, contact Alice Barrow, Route 2, Box 375, Snow Hill, NC 28580.

SKIING: Last year all but two of the winter weekends were taken by church groups desiring to go skiing. There are two ski resorts located an hour's drive from Cragmont. We have not received all of the necessary information on the cost of skiing for this coming winter, but we feel that it will be approximately $75 per person as it was last year.

HELP! As most of you know by now a purchase of some new property located across the road from Cragmont was made during the late spring of 1988. It was a hard decision to make as we were still in debt $150,000 on the Main Building and knew we would have to borrow more money to make the purchase. It was, however, a unanimous decision by our Board to purchase the property, if at all possible. We borrowed $125,000 and consolidated the remainder of the Main Building debt with this amount, giving us a new indebtedness of $275,000. We will have one annual payment to make each year as usual for 20 years. We want to make a payment of $50,000 this year. The payment is due December 31, 1988. Please help us achieve our goal. Everyone who has seen the new property has been delighted with the decision to purchase. The ministers in their annual Ministers' Conference gave a rising vote of thanks to the Board of Directors of Cragmont for the decision to purchase the property. So now we need everyone's help to make the payments.

. . . WINTER! WINTER! WINTER! We are approaching winter, those cold wind-blown days that so many people do not like. Even though we have people coming here during the winter, it is still a slow time for us financially. These winter months are hard because we are paying the bills for the cold weather. The groups that are coming are not large enough yet to pay for themselves and there aren't as many donations made as there are when we are trying to make the payment in December. So remember us during these months. You might ask, "Well, how is the best way to help?" I believe it is through the Cragmont Club. It is only $10 per month, yet look what it can do. Currently we have 245 club members who contribute $30,000 annually. However, if we had 500 members, they would contribute $60,000 annually. Or take that one step further to 1,000 members; a total of $120,000 per year would be contributed. These funds would come in once a month and would greatly help us during the slow times. Help make this winter a bright one for Cragmont. Join the Cragmont Club. Just send your first $10 with your name and address, and each month we will send a reminder.

MINISTERS LOOK! We are inviting ministers and their families to come to Cragmont January 16-19. We do not plan to preach to you and this is not a seminar. We intend for it to be a time for your family to get away for a few days. You will be free to come and go as you please or just stay at Cragmont and do nothing. We will plan to take those who are interesting skiing. This is during the week, which may be difficult if children are involved. However, it should work well for ministers enabling you to be back in time for your weekend services. Those dates again are January 16-19. Just call us to make your reservation. All guests will have Main Building rooms.

# Charles Kuralt

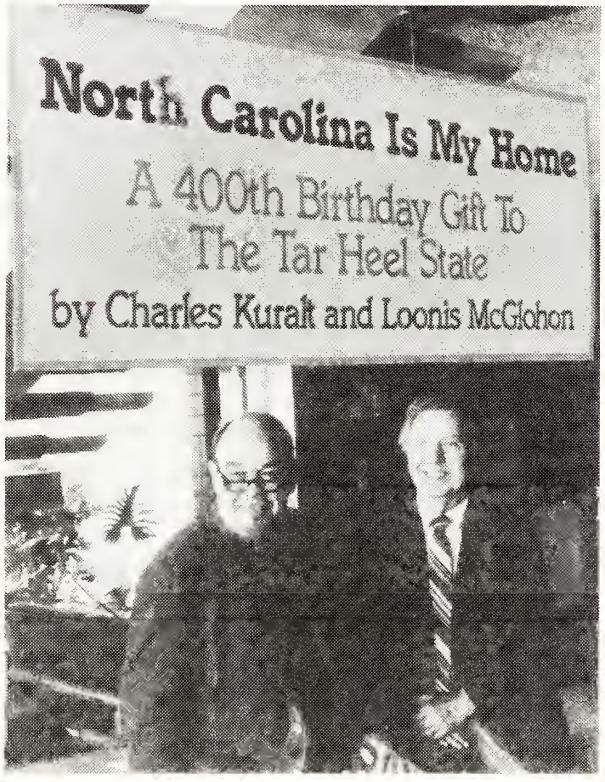
**and the Loonis McGlohon Trio**

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1—8 P.M.

**College Hall (Mount Olive College Campus)**

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC—$10/person

**LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE**




CBS News Correspondent Charles Kuralt, nationally known for his "On the Road" program, will appear at Mount Olive College, on Thursday, December 1, 1988, at 8 p.m. Accompanying him will be the Loonis McGlohon Trio, a musical group that came to national attention on the Peabody Award winning radio series "American Popular Song."

Mr. Kuralt is a native of Wilmington, NC, and a 1955 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is best known for searching out the "little" stories of America.

Mr. McGlohon is a native of Pitt County, North Carolina. His Trio has become one of America's most respected musical groups.

Admission is $10 per person and is open to the public.

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Please Detach and Return

I would like _____ tickets at $10 per ticket.

Enclosed is $ _____.

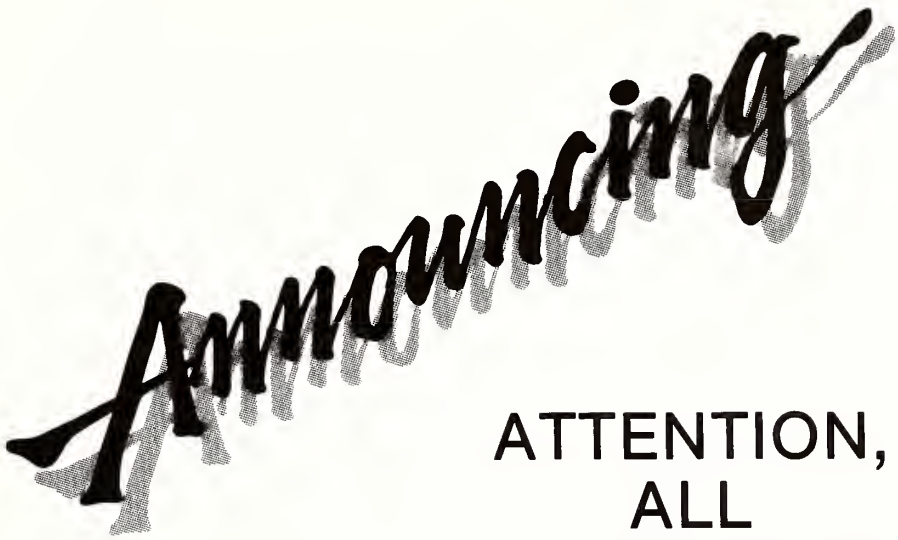
Send to:
Advancement Office
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC 28365

Name _____

Address _____

_____

(Make checks payable to Mount Olive College)




# ATTENTION, ALL TREASURERS, FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, MINISTERS AND DEACONS

The Minister's Program would like to say **thank you** for the work and leadership that you provide in the local church. To do this we are hosting a supper in your honor. This will take place in a town near you, so it will be more convenient for each church. At this meeting we will share ideas that you can carry back to your church and we will provide you with in-depth information about the Ministers' Program. We look forward to seeing you there!

Below we have listed a tentative schedule for these suppers:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| November 1 | Goldsboro | November 15 | Smithfield |
| November 3 | Beulaville | November 17 | Morehead City |
| November 8 | New Bern | November 29 | Greenville |
| November 10 | Wilson | December 1 | Kinston |

Each meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m., with supper at 7 p.m. There will be no charge and we hope that you will make plans to attend. We will be sending out letters to each church with the definite times and places along with the registration form. If there is not enough response in a particular area that meeting may be shifted to the next closest location.

S E E  Y O U  T H E R E!

# CORNERSTONE

## A NEW women's weekend retreat for the fall



Cornerstone, Cragmont's newest retreat weekend, will set sail on its maiden voyage, November 25-27, 1988. It is patterned after Morning Star, the Spring Women's Retreat held the weekend following Easter. Cornerstone is planned as a time women can leave the responsibilities of home and job for a short period and spend some time in communion with the Creator in the splendor of His mountain creations.

We think we have picked the ideal weekend—Thanksgiving. Get the family all filled and satisfied on a turkey dinner on Thursday. They can live off the leftovers all weekend while you join us to receive some nourishment of another type.

This can be a weekend of growth and revitalization for the spiritual side of your life. Our weekend will begin with a service Friday night and end following the worship service Sunday morning. Saturday morning will be devoted to Bible study, with Saturday afternoon free for your own adventures.

If you have enjoyed Morning Star in the spring, please consider joining us for Cornerstone in the fall. If the time of Morning Star has not been convenient for you to attend, here's another time for you to try. This doesn't replace Morning Star but provides a second opportunity each year to come away from life's rush to be still and feel the touch of God.

CORNERSTONE
**Dates:** November 25-27, 1988
**Includes:** Friday and Saturday Lodging
3 Meals Saturday
Breakfast Sunday
**Cost:** $40 per person

**Registrar:**
Mrs. Alice Barrow
Route 2, Box 375
Snow Hill, NC 28580

**Co-Directors:**
Dola Dudley
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-6160

Becky Jo Sumner
Route 4, Box 410
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(919) 332-6810

THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE will convene with Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, North Carolina, on November 3, 1988.

8:30—Registration
9:00—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez
—Welcome, the Rev. Phillip Boykin
—Response, John N. Bryant
9:15—Call to Order
—Registration Rules Explained by Credentials Committee
—Roll Call of Officers and Standing Boards
—Roll Call of Churches
—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin
—Appointment of Committees
9:45—Report of Mount Olive College
10:00—Children's Home Report
10:15—Other Denominational Ministries
11:00—Worship Hour
—Congregational Singing
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Special Music
—Sermon, the Rev. Rod Jones
12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Ken Hardison
1:25—Report of Standing Committees
—Executive Committee
—Ordaining Council
—Sunday School Convention
—Woman's Auxiliary Convention
—Cape Fear Ministers' Conference
—Board of Education
2:15—Report of Temporary Committees
—Temperance
—Resolutions
—Obituary
—Credentials
—Nominating
3:00—Business Session
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment

DAVIS CHURCH, Davis, North Carolina, has scheduled its annual fall revival for November 7-11, at 7 each night, with the Rev. Norman Ard as the speaker. His messages will be taken from the Book of Philippians, using the theme "Joyful Christians." Special music will be featured at each service. The Rev. Joe Ard is pastor. Everyone is invited to attend.

CORE CREEK CHURCH, Cove City, has scheduled a series of revival services for November 14-18. The Rev. Wayne King, pastor of Westside Church in Kinston, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The church will observe Harvest Day the following Sunday, November 20.

The Rev. Bryant Hines, pastor, and the church congregation invite all members and friends to these special events.

DILDA'S GROVE CHURCH, Route 1, Fountain, has scheduled revival services November 7-11, with the Rev. David Charles Hansley serving as the guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

THE ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE will convene with Marlboro Church, Farmville, on Thursday, November 10. The scheduled program is as follows:

9:00—Registration
9:30—Hymn
—Scripture and Prayer, Douglas Gayhart
—Call to Order, the Rev. Leon Grubbs
—Welcome, Marlboro Church
—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood
—Roll Call of Churches
—Recognition of Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
—Executive Committee Report
—Brief Business Session
10:00—Conference Worship
—Prelude
—Call to Worship
—Prayer
—Hymn
—Conference Offering
—Special Music
—Conference Message, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
—Hymn
—Benediction
11:00—Report of Denominational Ministries
—State Convention Report
—Retirement Homes Report
—Mount Olive College Report
—Ministers' Program Report
—Home Missions Report
—Free Will Baptist Press Report
—Hymn
—Foreign Missions Report
—Cragmont Assembly Report
—Church Finance Association Report
—Children's Home Report
12:00—Lunch
1:00—Hymn
—Memorial Service, Obituary Committee
—Report of Conference Ordaining Council
—Report of Conference Board of Missions

(Turn the Page)

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PERIODICALS

DURHAM NC 27706

—Report of Credentials Committee
—Business Session
—Report of Trustees
—Report of Historian
—Report of Resolutions and Temperance Committee
—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Finance Com-
—mittee
—Report of Nominating Committee
—Adjournment

Lunch will be catered by Bonnie's Cafe of Farmville at the cost of $4 per plate.

A STUDY of the 1989 Woman's Auxiliary *Devotion* will be held on Saturday, November 19, from 10 a.m. until noon, in Rodgers Chapel, located on the Mount Olive College campus. The study will be presented by the Rev. De Wayne Eakes.

Lunch will be available in the cafeteria.

THE CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will meet with Ormondsville Church on Saturday, November 19. Coco the Clown will be presenting the evening program. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

All district churches and youth groups are encouraged to attend.

## STATE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION

November 11, 1988
Fremont Church
7:30 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS AT MOC

**High School Visitation Day** — Saturday, November 12
Registration begins at 9:45 a.m. in College Hall

**Charles Kuralt and the Loonis McGlohon Trio** — Thursday, November 17
"North Carolina Is My Home," a musical documentary written in honor of North Carolina's 400th birthday. — 8 p.m., College Hall
(Admission $10)

**Founder's Day** — Tuesday, November 22
Claude H. Moore, Guest Speaker — 11 a.m., College Hall
Professor Emeritus, Mount Olive College

**Homecoming/Pickle Classic Basketball Tournament** — Friday, December 2
Tournament Begins Friday at 6 p.m. — Saturday, December 3
Homecoming Activities Begin Saturday

**Messiah** — 8 p.m. Tuesday, December 6
First Baptist Church, Mount Olive — 4 p.m. Sunday, December 11

**North Carolina Symphony** — Monday, December 12
"Holiday Pops Concert" — 8 p.m., College Hall
(Admission $10)

## SCOUTING PRAYER

*written by Frank Crary, Scout Commissioner*

**BE PREPARED**

Eternal God, help me to realize that the door of opportunity opens most often to the one who is ready to enter. Keep me from relying on chance. May I never think of life as a lottery in which the lucky person wins the prize. May I understand that youth is the time to prepare for whatever life may bring.

Save me from letting the days slip by without using them. May I not be shut out from something I would like to do because I have failed to get ready. If I have habits that hinder me from doing my best, help me to overcome them.

Give me the spirit of the athlete who goes into training that he may put forth his best efforts and win the race. Help me to be ready to meet difficulty and danger.

May I prepare for a life work in which I can render my best service to God and mankind.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

DIVINITY SCHOOL LIBRARY

# FREEWILL BAPTIST



December, 1988

DECEMBER

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

88



**A Christmas Prayer**
3
**Learning Servanthood**
4
**News Briefs**
6
**Christian Teacher**
8
**Children's Corner**
10
**1989 Calendar**
11
**Ministry Focus**
39
**Ministries Update**
40

December, 1988
Vol. 103 No. 12

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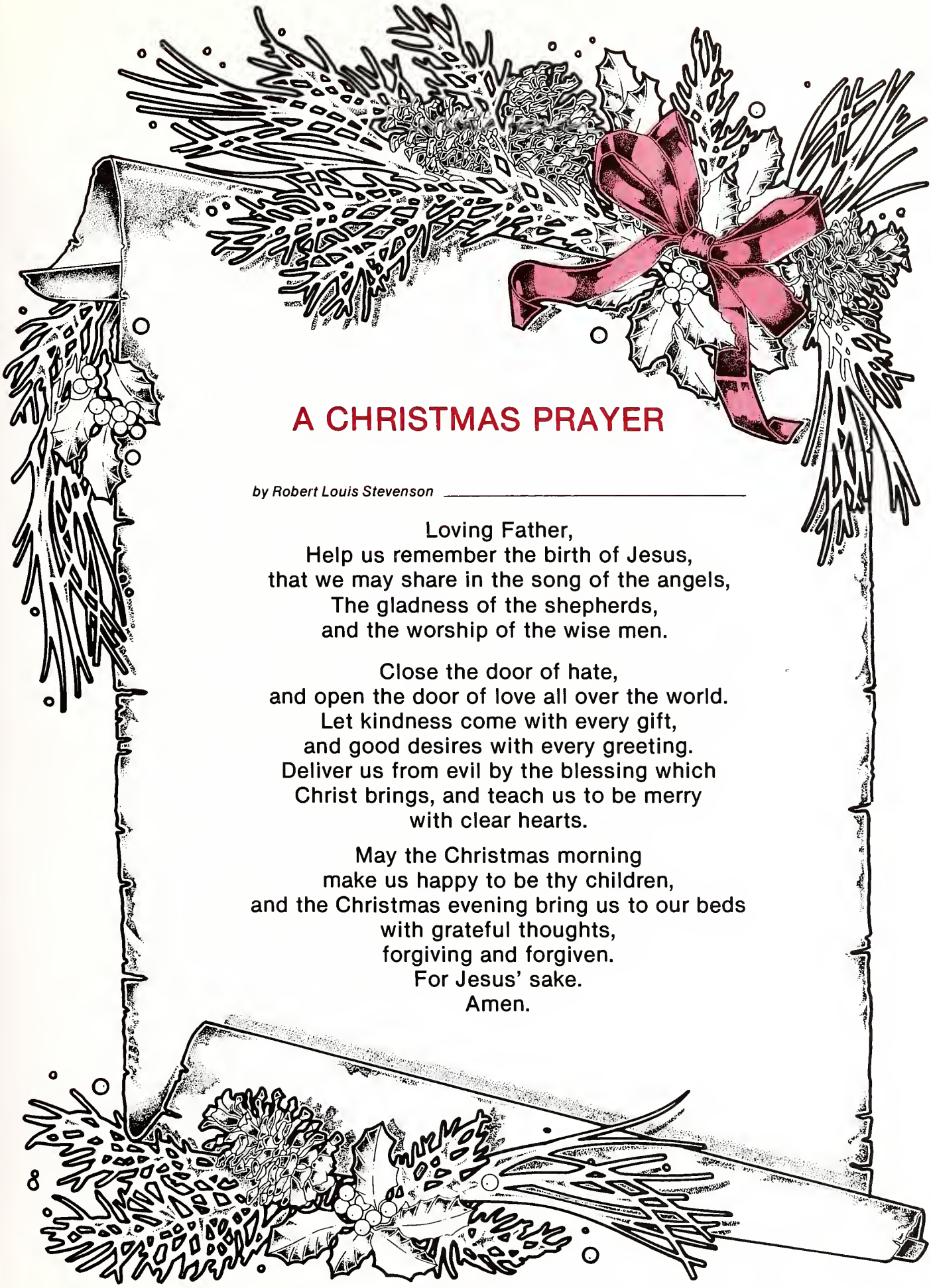
The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. The contents herein do not necessary reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.* The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.93; two years, $16.28; four years, $31.50 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

**Every-Family Plan:** A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly. **Bundle Plan:** Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

**Bookstore Hours: Ayden,** 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **Wilson,** 10 a.m.—6 p.m., Monday—Saturday; **New Bern,** and **Kinston,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.; Monday—Saturday.

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# A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*by Robert Louis Stevenson*

Loving Father,
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
The gladness of the shepherds,
and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate,
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift,
and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which
Christ brings, and teach us to be merry
with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be thy children,
and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven.
For Jesus' sake.
Amen.

In Loving Memory of

# LEE HARDRICK STALLARD



Lee Hardrick Stallard







The deacons of House of Prayer Church served as pall bearers at Mr. Stallard's funeral. Pictured (from left to right) are Homer Castle, Elbert Atkins, Arvil Casstevens, James Smith, George Atkins, and James Castle. Ron Pinyan, Roy Hall, and Lee Osborne are not pictured.

Week after week, he sat on the front row and listened. Surely his mind could remember those early days when the church was just beginning. He could remember the Lord dealing with his wife about ordination and encouraging her to do as God willed. Surely he could remember how the small group of believers broke ground for their new church facility in 1972 and how they paid off their indebtedness in September, 1980. There is no doubt but that this gentle man understood the role of a servant, for he is remembered now for his servanthood.

"The saying goes that behind every great man there's a great woman. The Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard, pastor of House of Prayer Church, Kernersville,

would agree—with one exception." The opposite would be true, according to Mrs. Stallard. Her late husband Lee was one of her best listeners each week. He was also one of her most ardent supporters. She attributes her husband for supporting her and making it possible for her to accomplish things for the Lord. Today, nearly two years after his death, Mrs. Stallard easily recounts his love for her, their family, and for God.

House of Prayer Church was organized in the winter of 1966 by the Rev. Thomas G. Smith, Mrs. Stallard's brother. The first meetings were held in his home, but soon moved to a house near its present location.

In April, 1972, a ground breaking was held for the present building and the congregation began use of the facility on May 18, 1973. (The church was constructed by the men of the congregation.)

Brother Lee worked alongside his wife from the beginning; and when she became pastor of the church in 1969, his servanthood took on added dimensions.

While he loved to worship his Lord, Brother Lee also enjoyed his times of fellowship with others. Church activities were important to him, for such gatherings provided him with opportunities to express his love for others.

Words fail to express how the people in the Kernersville area and the Piedmont Conference of Original Free Will Baptists were touched by this man's life. Those of us who were fortunate enough to meet Mr. Stallard can only begin to convey how much he meant to all of us who knew and loved him.

How do you memorialize so great a man? Perhaps saying, "He was a man of God" says it all.

For he surely was.

The following tribute was written by Krista Sue (Peanuts) Crews, Mr. Stallard's granddaughter. Mr. Stallard passed away on December 28, 1986.

Dear Grandpa:
I wish I could tell you how much
I love you, just one more time.
I wish I could show you how much
You mean to me and how proud
I am to call you mine.

You were so thoughtful and kind,
With only love and forgiving
on your mind.

I wish you were here now
to hold me as you did then,
But I know someday
I will see you again
Not on this earth, for your
life here has ended
God called you home the 28th
day of December.
I know where to find you, I know
where you wait,
for very soon I will meet you
Just inside Heaven's gate.

In Loving Memory of

Lee Hardrick Stallard
House of Prayer Free Will Baptist Church
Deacon
Husband
Father
Grandfather
Friend



**CALENDAR INSIDE**

When examining this issue of *The Free Will Baptist,* you may have been surprised to find a calendar in the center of the publication. This calendar has been provided for your convenience by the Free Will Baptist Press. The calendar has a daily Bible reading entry which, if followed, will assist you in reading through the Bible in a year. You will also find dates of denominational activities on the calendar.

To use the calendar, you can merely hang it as it is, or you can remove the outside pages of the publication.

In order to provide you with the calendar we had to omit some of our regular monthly features. We ask for your understanding in this matter.

Janie Jones Sowers
*Editor*

**ADDRESS CHANGE**

The Rev. O. B. Jones has moved. His new address and phone number are as follows: Box 364, Micro, NC 27555; phone, 284-4193.



The Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson

THE MEMBERS OF REEDY BRANCH CHURCH, Winterville, NC, honored their pastor and his wife on Sunday, October 23, 1988. The Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson have served the church for twenty-five years. They came to the church October 20, 1963.

The morning service was full of songs that are Mr. Wilson's favorites. After a brief and meaningful service, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were asked to sit at the front of the church.

Earl Deal was the spokesperson. Elwood Davenport and Blanie Moye presented them a music box from the Official Board and the church. Mrs. Rebecca Davenport presented a plaque acknowledging a gift of $1,000 from the church to the Whitley Center at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wilson's twenty-five years at Reedy Branch Church. Tim Tyndall unveiled a grandfather's clock from the church. Dean Wingate presented a love offering from members of the church and others.

Different people in the church stood and said a few words from their hearts about what Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have meant to them.

In the afternoon, the church gave a reception in the Wilson Fellowship Hall. About 500 people came to speak to them.

The members of the church all want to say they are proud to have a pastor and his wife like the Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson. We love you both. Thank you for being with us 25 years and for providing your devoted service.

ROBERT'S GROVE Church, Route 1, Dunn, began its new year with excitement and enthusiasm.

During the Sunday evening service, July 3, the pastor, the Rev. Calvin Heath, ordained E. V. Spell Jr. to the Board of Deacons. He also recognized other new officers, and gave appreciation to those who have served so well for the past year.

On Sunday morning, July 17, during the worship service, the church observed "Laymen's Sunday." The men were in charge of the service. The morning messages were delivered by Bobby Phillips, who spoke on the topic, "The Teacher"; and E. V. Spell, who spoke on "Events in the Life of Jesus." The Men's Chorus brought special music. At the close of the service some of the ladies served as judges to determine which two men had on the ugliest neckties. Tommy Tyndall and Sam Barefoot won the honors.

Sunday morning, August 21, the church observed "Ladies' Day." The ladies were in charge of Sunday School and the worship service. During the worship service, Mrs. Dixie Honeycutt and Mrs. Mary Lynn Honeycutt both spoke on the topic "Love." The Ladies' Chorus brought special music.

The ladies wore their hats and at the close of the service, the men in the Boyd Peters Class served as judges for the two most beautiful hats. Mrs. Martha Sue Faircloth and Mrs. Margaret Phillips won the honors.

Sunday morning, September 11, was observed as "Grandparents' Day" in Sunday School. The

superintendent, Bobby Johnson, and his lovely wife Sylvia invited the grandparents out on the front steps of the church for photographs.

During the worship service that day, the pastor spoke on "Wisdom," using 1 Kings 18:29-35 as his scriptural background for his message. At the close of the service, the members of Vanguard I Sunday School Class invited all senior citizens into the Fellowship Hall, where they had prepared a beautiful luncheon in appreciation and love for them.

Sunday, October 2, was Homecoming—Harvest Day and a large crowd attended and enjoyed a day of worship and fellowship. The Rev. Bobby Tew brought the Homecoming message. His title was "Joy," using John 15:11 as his scriptural background. His theme asked the question, "Is there joy in our lives today?" At the close of the morning service, the processional Harvest Day offering was placed on the altar. The amount totaled $5,516.93.

The afternoon service included a Memorial Service by Mrs. Thelma Jackson, followed by a program of music and singing by the Jack Bircher Family of Cove City.

Three years have come and gone since the Rev. Heath's family began the pastorate at Robert's Grove. The church waited and prayed for the Lord to send the one He knew was best to lead the people. He is a pastor to everyone, and no one can feel pushed aside, slighted or denied, from the tiny baby to the oldest. We can truthfully say of him as was said of David, "He is a man after God's own heart."

May God's richest blessings be with him and his family as they continue to serve our church.—submitted by Mrs. Sulie D. Spell



Grandparent's Day at Robert's Grove Church



THE MEMBERS AT SHILOH CHURCH, Pinetown, honored Ervin G. Foreman for fifty years of dedicated service to the church on October 16. Pictured are (from left to right) the Rev. Wayne Hargrove, pastor; Mrs. Ervin (Rachel) Foreman; and Mr. Foreman.

**ATTENTION, WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH LEADERS!**

The Western District Youth Fellowship will hold its talent competition for the State Youth Convention on January 28, 1989, at 7:30 p.m., at Pleasant Hill Church. Please note that these winners will represent the Western District during the State Youth Convention in May.

If you have any questions feel free to contact us.

Wanda Jones
Box 249
Pine Level, NC 27568
965-2765

Nancy Boykin
409 Henderson Street, Apartment 3
Mount Olive, NC 28365
658-5405

A list of future meetings are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| January 28, 1989 | Pleasant Hill | 7:30 p.m. |
| February 25, 1989 | Piney Grove | 7:30 p.m. |
| March 25, 1989 | First Church, Wilson<br>Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention<br>Registration Begins at 9 a.m. | |
| April 22, 1989 | Kenly | 7:30 p.m. |



# "A SLIDE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS"

## (Using Bible Land Slides in Teaching)

*by Bass Mitchell*

The lesson was on the story of the multiplication of the fish and loaves. Our teacher had visited Israel and made many slides. Some slides were of the Church of the Multiplication, which is supposedly built over the very spot Jesus and His disciples went to that day. She also had slides of the inside of the church, showing the beautiful mosaic depicting this story. As she showed them, she shared interesting facts about each one. The last slide revealed this beautiful spot with the Sea of Galilee in the background. She asked us to meditate on the picture as she read the story from Mark. This familiar story took on a whole new depth and meaning for the whole class.

Now she could have spent an hour describing this site and telling the story. But she thought it best to show us the story. Those few slides were worth ten thousand words!

The usage of slides of Bible places are probably one of the most underused and misused visual aids in teaching today. Yet, they carry great teaching potential.

Most of our lives we have read about the land of the Bible. Every child in Sunday School knows about Bethlehem. But knowing about these places and being able

to see them are two very different things. How these places come alive when we can actually see them!

Many, perhaps *most* of our students, will never get to visit the Holy Land and see these signs firsthand. So if we cannot take them there, we can bring the land of the Bible to them—through slides!

The use of slides is based on a sound educational principle—that we need to get our students to see what is taught and not just hear it. What they both see and hear will make a longer lasting impact on them.

**Getting the Slides**

I know what you're thinking, "How can I get such slides?"

You probably haven't been to Israel. However, you may know someone in your church or community who has! If not, ask around and find out who they are. They will probably be more than willing to let you use or make copies of their slides. Perhaps they could be resource persons you could call on to actually come and show some slides to your class.

You could check with other churches and ministers in your community. Some churches have sets of slides that they would loan out or could tell you how to get.

Don't neglect those who have traveled to other lands associated with the Bible but not actually in Palestine. For example, if you know someone who has been to Greece, chances are he has some slides of the places Paul visited and other early Christian sites.

There are also slide packets and whole programs which you could buy. Some come with a cassette tape for the script. I've seen these used quite effectively. Check your local public library and Christian bookstores to see what they have. If they do not have them in stock, perhaps they could order them for you or tell you where to get them.

I prefer these kinds of slides. Why? Because they are done by professionals. The quality is excellent and often a good deal of helpful material comes with them.

Here's another thought. You could suggest to those who develop your curriculum resources that such slides be provided in the materials. These persons are often very receptive to the ideas and needs coming from the churches they serve.

I would suggest that you have your slides filed in your church media center. Store them in such a way that teachers could easily find what they need.

**Using the Slides**

Slides by themselves aren't much use to you. You need to have basic information on each slide. What is being shown in it? Where is it? Give something of its historical background. Even share the latest archaeological information on recent excavations at that site if this is pertinent.

Such information is available in books on the land of the Bible, various materials for tourists, and in Bible dictionaries. You will also find a Bible atlas helpful. Make sure you collect this kind of information when you make or buy the slides. Without this, they have much less value for teaching.

When you show a slide, refer to various Bible events and persons associated with that place. Get the class to help you do this. Here's where a good Bible dictionary would really help you. Look up the place and it will list for you the major events and persons associated with it. It should even give you a good description of it and its exact location. For an example, look up the article, "Olives, Mount of," in Volume 3 of the *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible.*

Now you will also want to read some of these biblical passages as they view the slides. It's important to firmly relate the slides with the actual biblical stories.

Also, have a map of the Bible land available to show with the slides. I prefer overhead transparencies which you can purchase from most Christian bookstores. You use the map to show where the place on the slide is actually located.

Let's say that you're studying the Beatitudes that Jesus gave on the Mount of Olives. Show a slide of it. Give some background information. Show on a map of Jerusalem where the Mount of Olives is located. Then, as everyone looks at the slide, have a good reader read the Beatitudes. This could be a very inspiring experience.

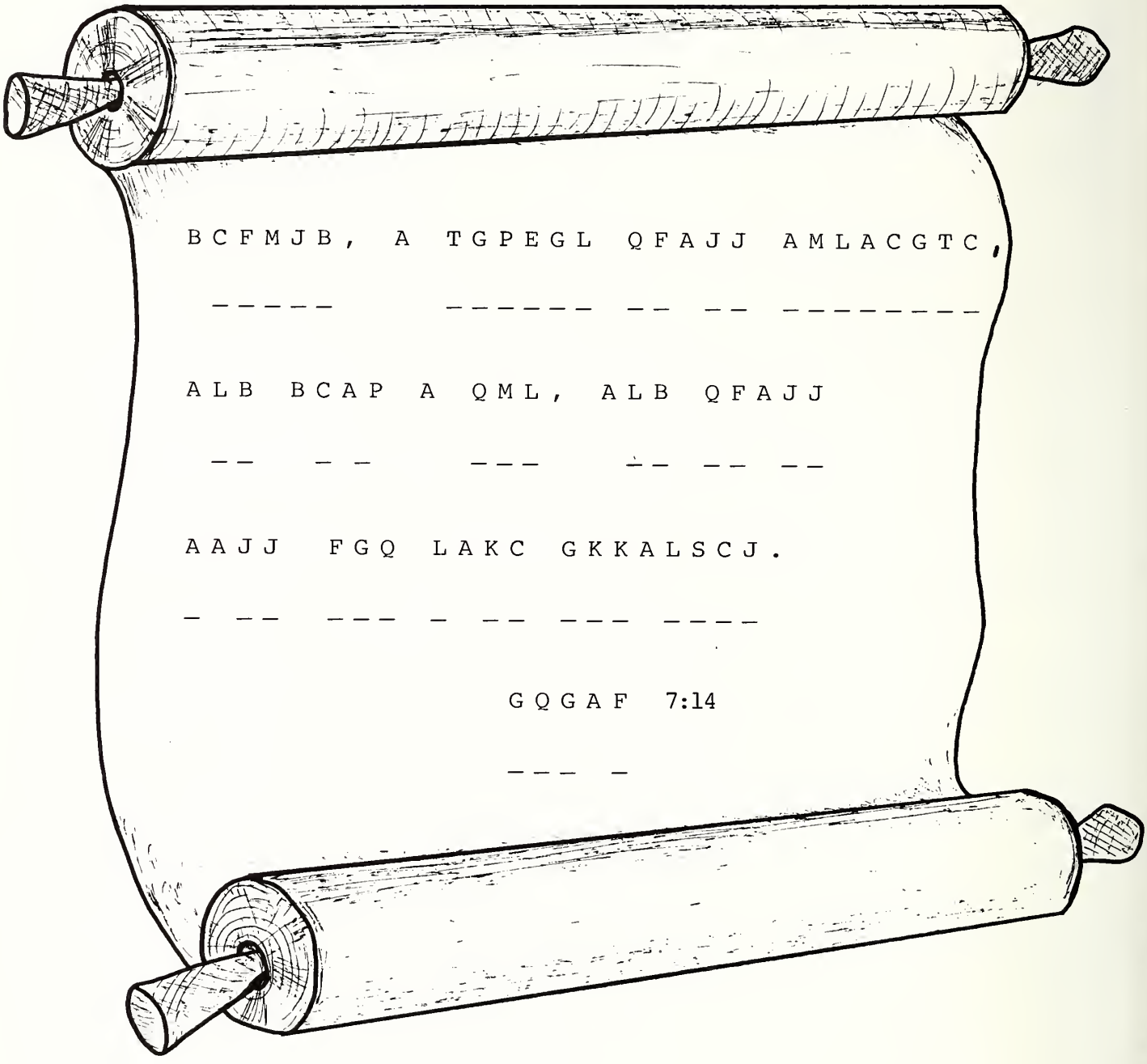
Can you get some objects associated with the places in the slides? Perhaps the persons who took the slides have some. Visual aids the class could actually touch would really make an impact. For example, it would increase the effectiveness of your Mount of Olives slide if you had a piece of an Olive tree from there or even some actual olives. Such things are not as hard to come by as you might think.

There are other ways to use slides. One teacher used them to review the lessons at the end of a quarter. The class was divided into two teams. A slide was shown of some biblical site and the teams had to identify it, as well as sharing the biblical events and persons they studied in relation to that place.

You will find that using slides creatively takes extra preparation time. However, the benefits for teaching more than make up for the extra effort!

# A PROPHET'S MESSAGE

Many, many years before the birth of Christ, an Old Testament prophet made this prophecy. Can you read the message? For each blank, take the letter and go backwards two letters from it in the alphabet.





# 1989



DECEMBER

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# JANUARY 1989

FEBRUARY

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1**<br>Genesis 1-3<br>New Year's Day<br>Cragmont Winter Retreat | **2**<br>Genesis 4-6<br>Cragmont Winter Retreat | **3**<br>Genesis 7-9 | **4**<br>Genesis 10-12 | **5**<br>Genesis 13-15 | **6**<br>Genesis 16-18 | **7**<br>Genesis 19-21 |
| **8**<br>Genesis 22-24 | **9**<br>Genesis 25-27 | **10**<br>Genesis 28-30 | **11**<br>Genesis 31-33 | **12**<br>Genesis 34-36 | **13**<br>Genesis 37-39<br>Cragmont Marriage Enrichment Retreat | **14**<br>Genesis 40-42<br>Cragmont Marriage Enrichment Retreat |
| **15**<br>Genesis 43-45<br>Cragmont Marriage Enrichment Retreat | **16**<br>Genesis 46-48<br>Ministers' Cragmont Get Away | **17**<br>Gen. 40-Exo. 1<br>Ministers' Cragmont Get Away | **18**<br>Exodus 2-4<br>Ministers' Cragmont Get Away | **19**<br>Exodus 5-7<br>Ministers' Cragmont Get Away | **20**<br>Exodus 8-10<br>Home Missions All-Night Prayer Service | **21**<br>Exodus 11-13<br>State WA Executive Committee Meeting<br>Central District Youth Fellowship, Black Jack Church, 7 p.m. |
| **22**<br>Exodus 14-16<br>Retirement Homes Sunday | **23**<br>Exodus 17-19<br>Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship | **24**<br>Exodus 20-22 | **25**<br>Exodus 23-25 | **26**<br>Exodus 26-28 | **27**<br>Exodus 29-31 | **28**<br>Exodus 32-34<br>Western District Youth Fellowship, Pleasant Hill Church |
| **29**<br>Exodus 35-37 | **30**<br>Exodus 38-39 | **31**<br>Exodus 40 | Don't forget_____ | | | |



JANUARY

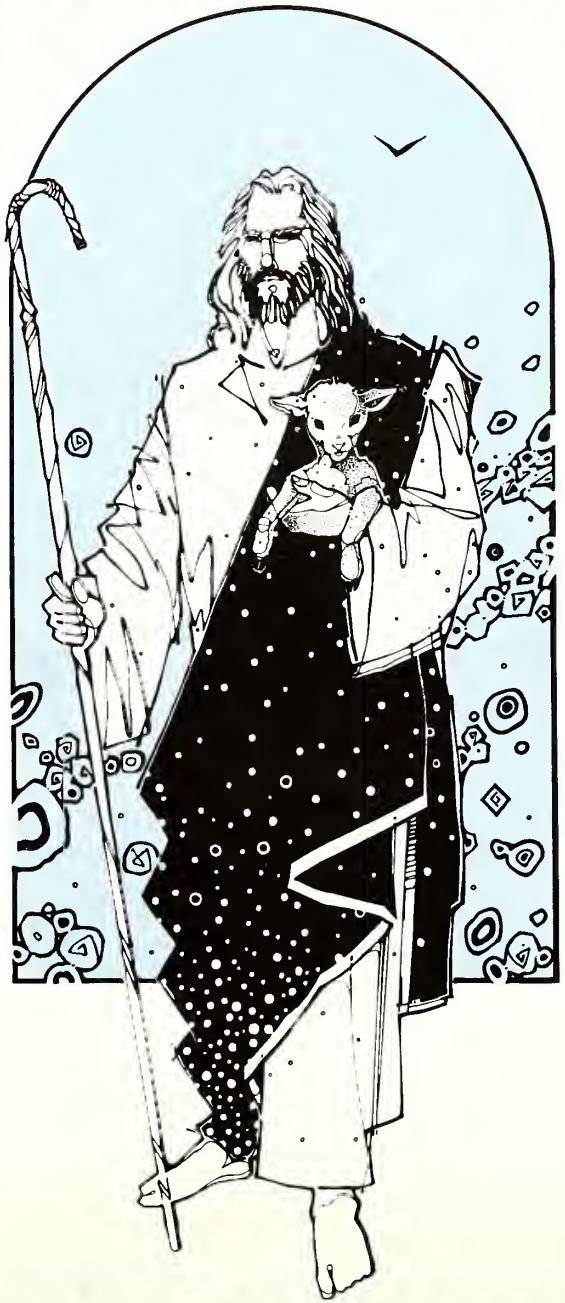
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# FEBRUARY 1989

MARCH

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | **1**<br>Leviticus 1-3 | **2**<br>Leviticus 4-6 | **3**<br>Leviticus 7-8 | **4**<br>Leviticus 9-10 |
| **5**<br>Leviticus 11-13 | **6**<br>Leviticus 14-15 | **7**<br>Leviticus 16-18<br>Foreign Missions Board Meeting, 10 a.m.<br>Retirement Homes Board Meeting | **8**<br>Leviticus 19-21 | **9**<br>Leviticus 22-23 | **10**<br>Leviticus 24-25 | **11**<br>Leviticus 26-27 |
| **12**<br>Numbers 1-2 | **13**<br>Numbers 3-4 | **14**<br>Numbers 5-6<br>Valentine's Day<br>CFA Annual Membership Meeting | **15**<br>Numbers 7 | **16**<br>Numbers 8-9 | **17**<br>Numbers 10-11<br>Ministerial Association Mid-Year Banquet | **18**<br>Numbers 12-13 |
| **19**<br>Numbers 14-15 | **20**<br>Numbers 16-18 | **21**<br>Numbers 19-20 | **22**<br>Numbers 21-22 | **23**<br>Numbers 23-25 | **24**<br>Numbers 26-27 | **25**<br>Numbers 28-29<br>Western District Youth Fellowship, Piney Grove Church |
| **26**<br>Numbers 30-31 | **27**<br>Numbers 32-33 | **28**<br>Numbers 34-35<br>Numbers 34-36<br>Numbers 36<br>World Missions Conference, Black Jack Church | Don't forget_____ | | | |



FEBRUARY

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |

# MARCH 1989

APRIL

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget_____ | | | **1** Deut. 1-2 | **2** Deut. 3-4 | **3** Deut. 5-7 | **4** Deut. 8-10 |
| **5** Deut. 11-13 | **6** Deut. 14-16 | **7** Deut. 17-20 | **8** Deut. 21-23 | **9** Deut. 24-27 | **10** Deut. 28 | **11** Deut. 29-31 |
| **12** Deut. 32-34 | **13** Joshua 1-3 | **14** Joshua 4-6 | **15** Joshua 7-8 | **16** Joshua 9-10 | **17** Joshua 11-13 | **18** Joshua 14-16 Central District Youth Fellowship, Marlboro Church, 9:30 a.m. |
| **19** Joshua 17-19 Foreign Missions Telethon Sunday | **20** Joshua 20-21 | **21** Joshua 22-24 | **22** Judges 1-2 | **23** Judges 3-5 | **24** Judges 6-7 Good Friday | **25** Judges 8-9 Western District Youth, First Church, Wilson |
| **26** Judges 10-11 Easter Sunday | **27** Judges 12-14 | **28** Judges 15-17 | **29** Judges 18-19 | **30** Judges 20-21 | **31** Ruth 1-4 Morningstar Retreat, Cragmont | |


Spring

MARCH

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

# APRIL 1989

MAY

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget _____ | | | | | | **1**<br>1 Samuel 1-3<br>Morningstar Retreat, Cragmont |
| **2**<br>1 Samuel 4-7<br>Morningstar Retreat, Cragmont | **3**<br>1 Samuel 8-11 | **4**<br>1 Samuel 12-14:23 | **5**<br>1 Samuel 14:24-16<br>Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention | **6**<br>1 Samuel 17-18 | **7**<br>1 Samuel 19-21 | **8**<br>1 Samuel 22-24 |
| **9**<br>1 Samuel 25-27 | **10**<br>1 Samuel 28-31 | **11**<br>2 Samuel 1-2 | **12**<br>2 Samuel 3-5 | **13**<br>2 Samuel 6-9 | **14**<br>2 Samuel 10-12 | **15**<br>2 Samuel 13-14<br>Central District Youth Fellowship Field Day, Free Union Church, 9 a.m. |
| **16**<br>2 Samuel 15-16 | **17**<br>2 Samuel 17-18 | **18**<br>2 Samuel 19-20 | **19**<br>2 Samuel 21-22 | **20**<br>2 Samuel 23-24 | **21**<br>1 Kings 1-2:25 | **22**<br>1 Kings 2:26-4<br>Western District Youth Fellowship, Kenly Church |
| **23**<br>1 Kings 5-7<br>**30**<br>1 Kings 21-22 | **24**<br>1 Kings 8<br>Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship | **25**<br>1 Kings 9-11 | **26**<br>1 Kings 12-13 | **27**<br>1 Kings 14-15 | **28**<br>1 Kings 16-18 | **29**<br>1 Kings 19-20 |



APRIL

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

# MAY 1989

JUNE

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI. | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1**<br>2 Kings 1-3 | **2**<br>2 Kings 4-5<br>Retirement Homes Board Meeting | **3**<br>2 Kings 6-8 | **4**<br>2 Kings 9-10 | **5**<br>2 Kings 11-13 | **6**<br>2 Kings 14-15 |
| **7**<br>2 Kings 16-17 | **8**<br>2 Kings 18-20 | **9**<br>2 Kings 21-23:20<br>Foreign Missions Board Meeting, 10 a.m. | **10**<br>2 Kings 23:21-25 | **11**<br>1 Chron. 1-2<br>State WA Convention, First Church, Kinston | **12**<br>1 Chron. 3-5 | **13**<br>1 Chron. 6-7 |
| **14**<br>1 Chron. 8-10<br>Mother's Day<br>Children's Home Day | **15**<br>1 Chron. 11-13 | **16**<br>1 Chron. 14-16 | **17**<br>1 Chron. 17-20 | **18**<br>1 Chron. 21-23 | **19**<br>1 Chron. 24-26 | **20**<br>1 Chron. 27-29 |
| **21**<br>2 Chron. 1-3 | **22**<br>2 Chron. 4-6 | **23**<br>2 Chron. 7-9 | **24**<br>2 Chron. 10-13 | **25**<br>2 Chron. 14-17 | **26**<br>2 Chron. 18-20 | **27**<br>2 Chron. 21-24 |
| **28**<br>2 Chron. 25-27 | **29**<br>2 Chron. 28-30<br>Memorial Day | **30**<br>2 Chron. 31-33 | **31**<br>2 Chron. 34-36 | Don't forget_____ | | |



MAY

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

# JUNE 1989

JULY

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23/30 | 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget_____ | | | | **1** Ezra 1-2 | **2** Ezra 3-5 | **3** Ezra 6-7 |
| **4** Ezra 8-9 155 210 | **5** Ezra 10 156 209 | **6** Neh. 1-3 157 208 | **7** Neh. 4-6 158 207 | **8** Neh. 7-8 | **9** Neh. 9-10 | **10** Neh. 11-12 |
| **11** Neh. 13 | **12** Esther 1-3 | **13** Esther 4-7 | **14** Esther 8-10 | **15** Job 1-4 | **16** Job 5-8 | **17** Job 9-12 |
| **18** Job 13-16 Father's Day | **19** Job 17-20 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont | **20** Job 21-24 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont | **21** Job 25-29 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont | **22** Job 30-33 Ministers' Conference, Cragmont | **23** Job 34-37 | **24** Job 38-40 State WA Executive Committee Meeting |
| **25** Job 41-42 | **26** Psalms 1-9 Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont | **27** Psalms 10-17 Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont | **28** Psalms 18-22 Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont | **29** Psalms 23-30 Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont | **30** Psalms 31-35 Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont | |


CATCH THE Spirit

JUNE

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

# JULY 1989

AUGUST

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget _____ | | | | | | **1**<br>Psalms 36-39<br>Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont |
| **2**<br>Psalms 40-45 | **3**<br>Psalms 46-51<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont | **4**<br>Psalms 52-59<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont<br>Independence Day | **5**<br>Psalms 60-66<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont | **6**<br>Psalms 67-71<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont | **7**<br>Psalms 72-77<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont | **8**<br>Psalms 78-80<br>Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week, Cragmont |
| **9**<br>Psalms 81-87 | **10**<br>Psalms 88-91<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont | **11**<br>Psalms 92-100<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont | **12**<br>Psalms 101-105<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont | **13**<br>Psalms 106-107<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont | **14**<br>Psalms 108-118<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont | **15**<br>Psalm 119<br>Youth Frontier Conference /AFC Week, Cragmont |
| **16**<br>Psalms 120-131 | **17**<br>Psalms 132-138<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont | **18**<br>Psalms 139-143<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont | **19**<br>Psalms 144-150<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont | **20**<br>Proverbs 1-3<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont | **21**<br>Proverbs 4-7<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont | **22**<br>Proverbs 8-11<br>General Youth Conference II, Cragmont |
| **23**<br>Proverbs 12-15 | **24**<br>Proverbs 16-19<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont | **25**<br>Proverbs 20-22<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont | **26**<br>Proverbs 23-26<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont | **27**<br>Proverbs 27-31<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont | **28**<br>Eccles. 1-4<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont | **29**<br>Eccles. 5-8<br>General Youth Conference I, Cragmont |
| **30**<br>Eccles. 9-12 | **31**<br>Song of Sol. 1-8<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont | | | | | |



JULY

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| 23/30 | 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

# AUGUST 1989

SEPTEMBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1**<br>Isaiah 1-4<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont | **2**<br>Isaiah 5-9<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont | **3**<br>Isaiah 10-14<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont | **4**<br>Isaiah 15-21<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont | **5**<br>Isaiah 22-26<br>Youth People's Bible Conference, Cragmont |
| **6**<br>Isaiah 27-31 | **7**<br>Isaiah 32-37<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont | **8**<br>Isaiah 38-42<br>Foreign Missions Board Meeting, 10 a.m.<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont | **9**<br>Isaiah 43-46<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont | **10**<br>Isaiah 47-51<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont<br>Retirement Homes Board Meeting | **11**<br>Isaiah 52-57<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont | **12**<br>Isaiah 58-63<br>WA Conference I, Cragmont |
| **13**<br>Isaiah 64-66 | **14**<br>Jer. 1-3<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont | **15**<br>Jer. 4-6<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont | **16**<br>Jer. 7-10<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont | **17**<br>Jer. 11-14<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont | **18**<br>Jer. 15-18<br>Piedmont Conference<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont | **19**<br>Jer. 19-22<br>Piedmont Conference<br>WA Conference II, Cragmont |
| **20**<br>Jer. 23-25 | **21**<br>Jer. 26-28 | **22**<br>Jer. 29-31 | **23**<br>Jer. 32-33 | **24**<br>Jer. 34-36 | **25**<br>Jer. 37-40 | **26**<br>Jer. 41-44 |
| **27**<br>Jer. 45-48 | **28**<br>Jer. 49-50 | **29**<br>Jer. 51-52 | **30**<br>Lam. 1-2 | **31**<br>Lam. 3-5 | Don't forget_____ | |



AUGUST

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
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# SEPTEMBER 1989

OCTOBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget_____ | | | | | **1** Ezek. 1-4 | **2** Ezek. 5-9 |
| **3** Ezek. 10-13 | **4** Ezek. 14-16 Labor Day | **5** Ezek. 17-19 Free Will Baptist Press Membership Meeting | **6** Ezek. 20-21 | **7** Ezek. 22-24 | **8** Exek. 25-28 | **9** Ezek. 29-32 |
| **10** Ezek. 33-36 | **11** Ezek. 37-39 | **12** Ezek. 40-42 State Convention Evangelism Rally, 7:30 p.m. | **13** Ezek. 43-45 State Convention Missions Rally, 7:30 p.m. | **14** Ezek. 46-48 State Convention | **15** Daniel 1-3 | **16** Daniel 4-6 Central District Youth Fellowship, Rose Hill Church, 7:30 p.m. |
| **17** Daniel 7-9 | **18** Daniel 10-12 | **19** Hosea 1-6 | **20** Hosea 7-14 | **21** Joel 1-3 Eastern WA Convention | **22** Amos 1-5 | **23** Amos 6-9; Oba. 1 Central WA Convention |
| **24** Jonah 1-4 | **25** Micah 1-7 | **26** Nah. 1-3; Hab. 1-3 | **27** Zeph. 1-3; Hag. 1-2 | **28** Zech. 1-7 | **29** Zech. 8-14 | **30** Malachi 1-4 Pee Dee WA Convention |



SEPTEMBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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# OCTOBER 1989

NOVEMBER

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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1**<br>Matthew 1-4 | **2**<br>Matthew 5-6 | **3**<br>Matthew 7-9 | **4**<br>Matthew 10-11<br>Albemarle Conference<br>Western District WA Convention | **5**<br>Matthew 12 | **6**<br>Matthew 13-14 | **7**<br>Matthew 15-17 |
| **8**<br>Matthew 18-20 | **9**<br>Matthew 21-22 | **10**<br>Matthew 23-24 | **11**<br>Matthew 25-26<br>Cape Fear WA Convention | **12**<br>Matthew 27-28<br>Western Conference<br>Albemarle WA Convention | **13**<br>Mark 1-3<br>Cragmont Club Weekend I, Cragmont | **14**<br>Mark 4-5<br>Pee Dee Association<br>Piedmont WA Convention<br>Cragmont Club Weekend I, Cragmont |
| **15**<br>Mark 6-7<br>Cragmont Club Weekend I, Cragmont | **16**<br>Mark 8-9<br>Cragmont Limited Edition, Cragmont | **17**<br>Mark 10-11<br>Cragmont Limited Edition, Cragmont | **18**<br>Mark 12-13<br>Eastern Conference<br>Cragmont Limited Edition, Cragmont | **19**<br>Mark 14-16<br>Eastern Conference<br>Cragmont Limited Edition, Cragmont | **20**<br>Luke 1<br>Cragmont Club Weekend II, Cragmont | **21**<br>Luke 2-3<br>Cragmont Club Weekend II, Cragmont |
| **22**<br>Luke 4-5<br>Cragmont Club Weekend II, Cragmont | **23**<br>Luke 6-7<br>Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship | **24**<br>Luke 8-9 | **25**<br>Luke 10-11 | **26**<br>Luke 12-13 | **27**<br>Luke 14-16 | **28**<br>Luke 17-18 |
| **29**<br>Luke 19-20 | **30**<br>Luke 21-22 | **31**<br>Luke 23-24 | Don't forget _____ | | | |



OCTOBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

# NOVEMBER 1989

DECEMBER

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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget _____ | | | **1** John 1-3 | **2** John 4-5 Cape Fear Conference | **3** John 6-8 | **4** John 9-10 |
| **5** John 11-12 | **6** John 13-16 | **7** John 17-18 | **8** John 19-21 | **9** Acts 1-3 Central Conference Retirement Homes Board Meeting | **10** Acts 4-6 | **11** Acts 7-8 |
| **12** Acts 9-10 | **13** Acts 11-13 | **14** Acts 14-16 Foreign Missions Board Meeting, 10 a.m. | **15** Acts 17-19 | **16** Acts 20-22 | **17** Acts 23-25 | **18** Acts 26-28 Central District Youth Fellowship, Elm Grove Church, 7:30 p.m. |
| **19** Romans 1-3 | **20** Romans 4-7 | **21** Romans 8-10 | **22** Romans 11-13 | **23** Romans 14-16 Thanksgiving Day | **24** 1 Cor. 1-4 Cornerstone Retreat, Cragmont | **25** 1 Cor. 5-9 Cornerstone Retreat, Cragmont |
| **26** 1 Cor. 10-13 Cornerstone Retreat, Cragmont | **27** 1 Cor. 14-16 | **28** 2 Cor. 1-4 | **29** 2 Cor. 5-8 | **30** 2 Cor. 9-13 | | |



NOVEMBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

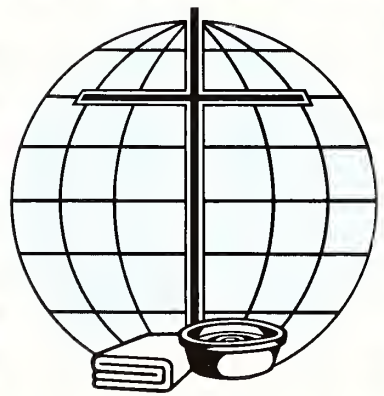
# DECEMBER 1989

JANUARY

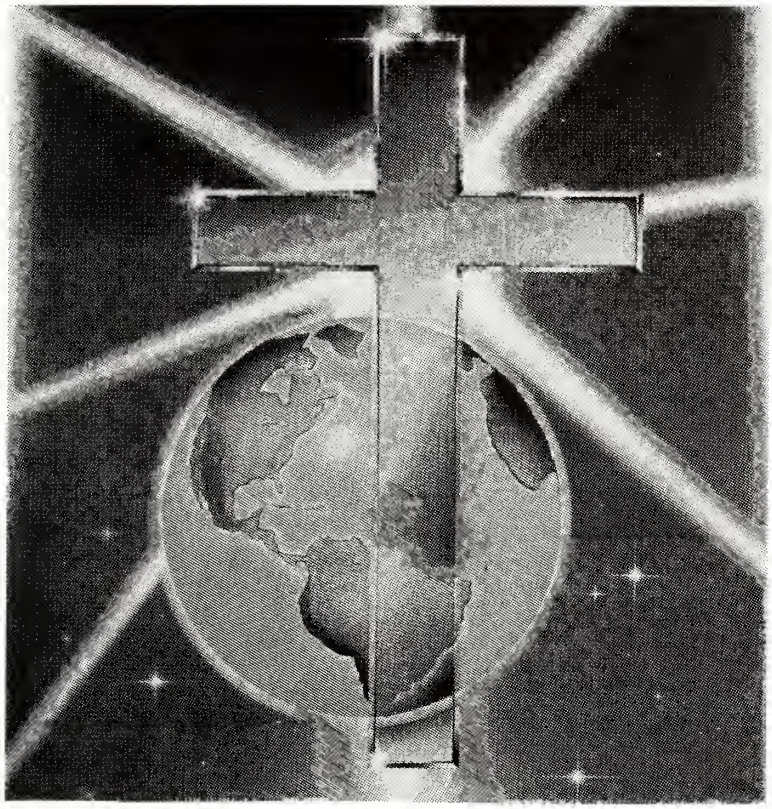
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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Don't forget _____ | | | | | **1** Galatians 1-3 | **2** Galatians 4-6 |
| **3** Ephesians 1-3 | **4** Ephesians 4-6 | **5** Philippians 1-4 | **6** Colossians 1-4 | **7** 1 Thess. 1-5 | **8** 2 Thess. 1-3 | **9** 1 Timothy 1-6 |
| **10** 2 Timothy 1-4 | **11** Tit. 1-3; Phil. 1 | **12** Hebrews 1-4 | **13** Hebrews 5-7 | **14** Hebrews 8-10 | **15** Hebrews 11-13 | **16** James 1-5 |
| **17** 1 Peter 1-2 | **18** 1 Peter 3-5 | **19** 2 Peter 1-3 | **20** 1 John 1-3 | **21** 1 John 4-5 | **22** 2-3 John; Jude | **23** Rev. 1-2 |
| **24** Rev. 3-5 | **25** Rev. 6-8 Christmas Day | **26** Rev. 9-11 | **27** Rev. 12-13 | **28** Rev. 14-16 | **29** Rev. 17-18 Young Adult Retreat, Cragmont | **30** Rev. 19-20 Youth Adult Retreat, Cragmont |
| **31** Rev. 21-22 New Year's Eve Young Adult Retreat, Cragmont | | | | | | |

# DON'T FORGET—



Free Will Baptist Press
Box 159
Ayden, NC 28513



# DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

Each year at the State Convention several of the denominational ministries ask the Convention to designate certain months for their particular ministry to ask the churches for special emphasis and funding. This is approved by the Convention. *One of the months that Foreign Missions has asked for for many years is December.*

*We need your help this month. Funding has been lagging behind expenditures all of the 1988-89 church year.*

Christmas is a time when we lavish ourselves with material goods; we spend billions of dollars in an attempt to express love and concern all in the name of the birth of Jesus. *Friends, it's His birthday.* If you want to increase His joy, then share the gospel with others. That's why He came, died and rose again. Celebrate this year by giving generously to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

The true meaning of Christmas cannot be found in consumption celebration, but in giving to reach others with the only message that really matters, *Jesus saves.*

Celebrate Christmas by giving a sacrificial gift to reach the lost through Foreign Missions.

*CHALLENGE*

1. Give the same amount that you spend for gifts and celebration to Foreign Missions.
2. Receive special offerings in church, Sunday School, etc. for Foreign Missions.
3. Pray daily for revival and world missions.

BOARD OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS
P.O. Box 39
Ayden, N.C. 28513-0039
Phone: 919-746-4963







**PARSONA CONGREGATION BUILDS A CHURCH**

*by Dr. E. M. Lall*

We organized the congregation of Parsona circuit in 1986. This congregation has a large membership of 159 new converts, who are all enthusiastic and active in the church. For sometime, this congregation did not have a regular pastor and I used to visit them from time to time. Then we found Vinod Singh to pastor this congregation for some months. When Vinod Singh left and joined elsewhere, we had some visiting pastors to take care of this congregation.

Subsequently I met a person, Gulzar Masih, 58, who was baptized in August, 1978, I then trained him to work as a supply pastor. This man was found to be really dedicated in Christian service and was therefore ordained to be a full-time pastor of this congregation. The Rev. Gulzar Masih came out as an effective Christian minister, who brought many souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The local congregation of Parsona is growing rapidly and they desire a worship place. The Lord has heard their prayers, enabled them to buy a small piece of land and to construct a small worship place. I am sure this chapel will have to be extended in the very near future, as the membership of this church is increasing every day.

I consecrated and dedicated this church building on July 3, 1988, and we brought our offerings for some musical instruments. A large thanksgiving service was organized by this congregation, which strengthened our faith. (A sincere decision is always fruitful.)

We are thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ for helping us in our endeavours to expand His kingdom upon earth. We are also thankful to the Board of Foreign Missions and the believers in the United States who prayed for this new venture.

**BOOKS AND LITERATURE**

*by Willem van der Plas*

When we arrived on Palawan, we had already received some cartons with books and literature; others arrived later. We were







very busy and we distributed all the literature immediately. Unfortunately, we lost the cartons with the addresses. As a result, we cannot send you any word of thanks. You did a marvelous job. The literature disappeared like snow in the sun (because many were interested in it).

You folks from Goldsboro, Kinston, Greenville and Cove City should have seen the enthusiasm of your brothers and sisters here. Standard material, *Advanced Quarterlies,* teachers' and student copies for all age groups are very welcome. All type of Christian literature like *Daily Bread, Guideposts,* etc. and good paperbacks and books are wanted. High school and college students love to read *Reader's Digests.*

The Dagomboy youth (where we live) set up a small library with a card system, even copies of *Guideposts* are registered as books. Please do not bother our Missions Director with these materials and send them straight through your post office to us. The customs here are very kind to us; we never have to pay extra duty or import taxes on used literature.

The books which I received from individuals, churches and Mount Olive College have also arrived properly. I donated over 700 books to P.B.C., eight cartons to our Sunday School Department, which is under the supervision of the Rev. Paul Grubbs; and the books which I specially received from my friends as personal gifts are in my home library.

The librarian and her staff are working hard to get all these books registered. The faculty is very thankful for the large number of books that enriches the College library.

We are thankful to the Philippine customs, which supplied the right advice and directions for tax redemption. The Lord our God has been our director in those matters. He has certainly moved the minds of people.

## TRIAL FREE TUITION CLASSES CONTINUED

During the fall semester at Mount Olive College, a free tuition class was offered to adults wanting to enroll in college on a trial basis. The program was such a success, it will be offered again in the spring.

The program will be open to any adult that meets the following criteria:

(a) Is a high school graduate or equivalent;
(b) Does not have a Baccalaureate Degree;
(c) Is at least 24 years of age and has not been enrolled in college for at least 3 years;
(d) Is not enrolled in any other course at Mount Olive College or any other college.

Applicants will be admitted as special students and will be restricted to the one free class. All possible obstacles to enrollment will be removed. The students will be expected to buy textbooks and any needed supplies.

For more information on this program contact, The Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Telephone (919) 658-2502.

## EVENING RELIGION COURSES OFFERED FOR SPRING SEMESTER

*Introduction to the New Testament:* This course will involve an examination of the writings of the New Testament as interpreted against the background of the early Christian Community.
Monday evenings, beginning January 16. Dr. Michael Pelt, professor.

*Church Growth and Evangelism:* This course will involve an examination of the biblical and theological basis for church growth and evangelism. The major emphasis of the course will be the development of skills in personal evangelism and church growth methodology.
Tuesday evenings, beginning January 17. The Rev. David Hines, professor.

*Introduction to Christian Education:* This course will involve the history, philosophy, and theological principles of religious education with emphasis on educational ministry and vocational opportunities in the local church.
Thursday evenings, beginning January 19. Mrs. Dianne Riley, professor.

## INFORMATION

Students may meet degree requirements during either the day or evening programs. Civilians may also enroll in courses taught by Mount Olive College at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro.

For more information on the entire schedule for the spring semester, please contact Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Telephone 919/658-2502.



**ALUMNI SPEAK AT CHAPEL SERVICES**

The Rev. Gary M. Bailey (center top photo), who spoke at a recent chapel service, talks with (left) Frank R. Harrison, College chaplain, and (right) Dr. Michael R. Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion. Mr. Bailey is a 1972 graduate of Mount Olive College and has served as pastor of Stoney Creek Church near Goldsboro for the past nine years.

Fred Baker (left in bottom photo) talks with President W. Burkette Raper after a recent chapel service. Mr. Baker, guest speaker at the service, is on a one-year furlough as missionary to the Philippines. He is a 1976 graduate of Mount Olive College.

Chapel services are held each Tuesday in Rodgers Chapel at 11 a.m. Speakers include Free Will Baptist ministers, College personnel and noted religious leaders.

**YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE!**

Often in educational planning, financing the cost plays a major role in determining where the student will pursue an education.

Mount Olive College believes that every worthy and qualified student should have an opportunity to attain a college education. The College seeks to assist students in obtaining the resources needed to meet educational expenses. Among the federal, state and college programs available at Mount Olive College are those listed below.

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

—PELL (BASIC) GRANT: Grants currently range up to $2,200. Eligibility is based on need as determined by the federal Pell Grant Program.

—SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (SEOG): Based on exceptional need, may range up to $4,000 per year in addition to the Pell Grant.

—COLLEGE WORK STUDY PROGRAM (CWSP): Based on financial need, CWSP offers opportunities for student to work 6 to 20 hours per week with payment equal to the federal minimum hourly wage.

—PERKINS LOANS (formerly National Direct Student Loan): These are long-term, 5% interest loans. Undergraduates may borrow up to $4,500 for the first two years of study and up to $9,000 for their total undergraduate program. Perkins Loan repayment begins six months after graduation or after enrollment as at least a half-time student ceases. Minimum payments are $30 a month. Interest on the loan begins at the end of the six-month grace period.

**STATE PROGRAMS**

—NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE TUITION GRANT: Available to North Carolina residents in full-time attendance at a North Carolina private college. The 1988-89 award is $1,100 per academic year, but the increase in future years. This grant is available to all qualified students and is *not* based on need.

—NORTH CAROLINA STUDENT INCENTIVE GRANT (NCSIG): Available to North Carolina residents on the basis of need. Eligibility determined by the College Foundation, Inc., in Raleigh.

—NORTH CAROLINA CONTRACTURAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (NCCSF): Awarded to North Carolinians as determined by the MOC Financial Aid Office. Amount varies according to need.

—STAFFORD LOANS (formerly North Carolina Insured Student Loan): 8% interest loans administered for the State of North Carolina by College Foundation, Inc., in Raleigh. Up to $2,625 annually for the first two years for undergraduate dependent study and up to $4,000 annually for upper level (junior and senior year) undergraduates. Cumulative borrowing limit for undergraduates is $17,250. Stafford Loan repayment begins six months after graduation or after student ceases at least half-time enrollment. Interest at 8% begins at the end of this grace period for the first four years of repayment then increases to 10%.

PLUS LOANS: These loans are made to parents of undergraduate students. Up to $4,000 per year per undergraduate student.

**MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PROGRAMS**

—SCHOLAR AND LEADER AWARDS: These awards recognize and reward academic achievement and leadership. Scholarships range from $750 to $3,000 per academic year. Awards are based on high school grades and interviews with an MOC Committee.

—ATHLETIC GRANTS: The College offers athletic grants in basketball, tennis, baseball, soccer, volleyball, softball, and golf. The grants are contingent upon the students fulfilling their

(Turn the Page)



The Mount Olive College Singers, shown during a performance, are included under Arts and Music Grants.

obligations to the athletic program.

—ARTS AND MUSIC GRANTS: A limited number of special grants are available each year in the areas of art and music. These grants require the student to give some significant service in return for the aid received. The Mount Olive Singers are included in this grant.

—GRANTS FOR MINISTERIAL STUDENTS AND SPOUSES: Students preparing for the Christian ministries and their spouses may qualify for an annual grant by participating in a "Supervised Work Experience" designed to give them practical experience under an ordained minister or in other approved work. The amount of the grant will be determined by the nature and responsibilities of the work assignment.

—FREE WILL BAPTIST TUITION GRANT: The College offers to each qualified Free Will Baptist student an annual tuition grant of $1,500. This grant is payable $750 per semester. To receive this grant, a student must be a member of one of the churches in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists or the Paul Palmer Conference in Georgia.

For more information on any of these programs please contact the Financial Aid Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Telephone 919/658-2502.



*Christmas Greetings*

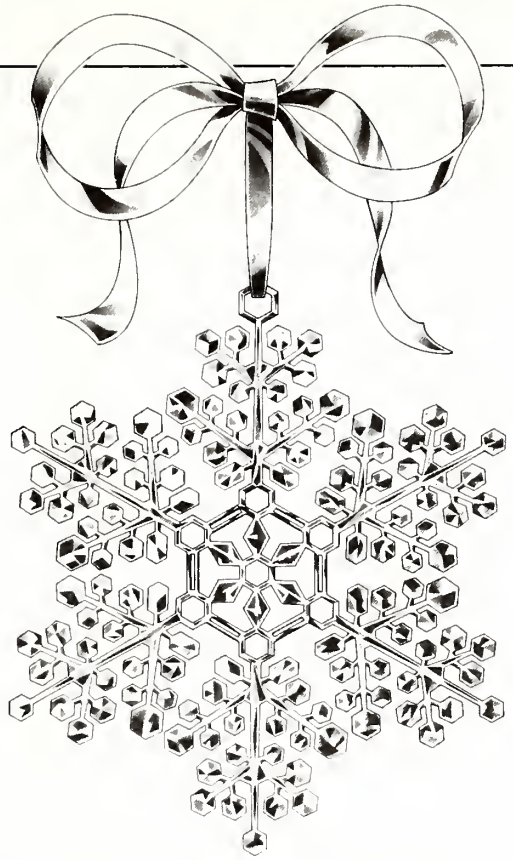
from
the children, staff, and
Board of Directors
of Free Will Baptist
Children's Home

Thank you
for the special love
that you have expressed
for our boys and girls!



**MINISTERS**

Ministers, look! We are inviting ministers and their families to come to Cragmont, January 16-19, 1989. We hope this will be a time for you and your family to get away for a few days. You can come and go as you please or just stay at Cragmont and rest. We plan to take those who are interested skiing. Call us to make your reservation. All guests will have Main Building rooms, as the motel will be winterized.



# WINTER RETREAT

## for Young Adults

Because of the success of our Young Adult Retreat last winter, we plan to offer one again this year. The dates are December 30, 1988, through January 2, 1989. We have added an extra day and hope to have that much more fun.

The program will be centered around communion: What communion is and why we practice it. We want you to arrive on Friday, December 30, by 5 p.m. The evening meal will be served at 6 p.m.

Transportation is not provided. However, if you are interested in coming but do not have a way to get here, please let us know. We may be able to help you make arrangements with someone else who is coming.

We plan to ski again this year. The cost is approximately $40 for the Saturday all-day ski plan. We are also looking into the possibility of some other activities such as swimming at an indoor pool and ice skating. The cost would be approximately $3 for each activity. You do not have to ski or participate in any of the other sport activities. Just come and join us. Bring in the New Year at Cragmont.

**$40—Retreat Only (other activities costs listed above)**

Please complete and return the form below with a $25 registration fee by December 15, 1988 (deposit non-refundable unless retreat is cancelled). When we receive your registration, we will send you information as to what you should bring and a medical form which **must** be filled out. Please register by the above date so all arrangements can be made.

---

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone Number _____

Ski Trip (Check One) _____ Yes No _____

Previous Ski Experience (Check One) _____ Yes No _____

I Would Prefer to Room With _____

(Rooms Will Sleep Four People)



# MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT

"A Marriage Enrichment Retreat is an opportunity for couples to nurture one of the most important relationships in their life. A healthy marriage is one which grows as individuals live through positive and negative life experiences. This retreat is designed to help couples strengthen communication, recognize and appreciate differences and affirm similarities."

For several years we have wanted to expand the ministry of Cragmont to include a Marriage Enrichment Retreat. We are pleased to announce the date for our first such retreat, January 13-15, 1989, to be led by the Rev. Preston Smith, director of Pastoral Care at Nash General Hospital, whose quote we have used above.

There is no age or number of years married limitation or requirement. However, we are limiting the number to twelve couples and will accept registrations on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, because of the nature of this retreat, we stress that this is for couples only and not appropriate for children.

We will begin the retreat Friday evening after the evening meal, which will be served at 6 p.m. The retreat will conclude with the Sunday morning worship service. In order to receive the full benefit of the retreat, it is imperative that the couples attend all planned activities.

The cost is $110 per couple which includes all expenses except travel to and from Cragmont and meals while traveling.

Please complete the form below and return to Cragmont with $25 per couple deposit by December 15, 1988. The deposit is non-refundable after December 15.

For further information please contact us at Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711. Our phone number is (704) 669-7677.

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Names _____

_____

Address _____

_____

City State Zip

Phone Number _____

(Day Number) (Evening Number)



# JANUARY, 1989 IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

## May We Suggest . . .

First Sunday: Use Retirement Homes bulletins for your worship services.

Second Sunday: Lead your congregation in prayer for this ministry.

Third Sunday: Speak briefly to your congregation on behalf of the Retirement Homes ministry.

Fourth Sunday: Give your congregation an opportunity to contribute in a free will offering for the Retirement Homes ministry.

Churches needing promotional materials may contact our office. We will supply bulletins, envelopes and brochures that will help promote this ministry. Call our office, 746-4963; or write to us at this address: Box 39, Ayden, NC 28513.

Your prayer and gift support will be greatly appreciated.

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Love in your heart puts the spirit of Christmas in the air. May yours be a joyous holiday season.

—The Management and Staff of the
Free Will Baptist Press

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